



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

May 19, 2015

H.R. 2261
Commercial Remote Sensing Act of 2015

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
on May, 13, 2015*

SUMMARY

H.R. 2261 would direct the Secretary of Commerce to submit annual reports on the status of private-sector applications for remote sensing technologies. The Secretary also would be required to submit a report to Congressional committees on any statutory changes that may be necessary to protect and promote national interests in such systems.

Assuming the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2261 would cost \$3 million over the 2016-2020 period. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 2261 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 2261 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and the environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2016-2020
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	2	*	*	*	*	3
Estimated Outlays	1	1	*	*	*	3

Note: * = Less than \$500,000.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 2261 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2015, that the necessary amounts will be appropriated at or near the beginning of each year, and that funds will be spent at historical rates for such activities.

Based on information from the Department of Commerce, CBO estimates that completing the bill's required study on a statutory framework for commercial remote sensing operations would cost \$1.8 million because of the technical and legal complexity of these systems. Developing data and annual reports on the disposition of commercial licenses for remote sensing would cost \$250,000 a year, CBO estimates.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 2261 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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