



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

October 19, 2017

**H.R. 1196**  
**Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2017**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs  
on September 28, 2017*

H.R. 1196 would require the Department of State and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to prioritize the transfer of systems that monitor travel by terrorists and foreign fighters to countries from which such individuals are likely to travel to the United States and would require the departments to notify the Congress of any planned transfers. The bill also would require the Department of State to submit to the Congress a plan to increase the capacity of foreign countries to monitor such travel and to report on the efforts of foreign countries to develop that capacity.

The bill would direct DHS to share with foreign governments certain technology used to screen persons who enter the United States. Based on an analysis of information from DHS, CBO estimates that implementing that provision would cost about \$2 million in 2018 and \$13 million over the 2018-2022 period (\$2 million to \$3 million each year after 2018), mostly for additional personnel and contractor services, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts.

Through its Terrorist Screening and Interdiction Program and related counterterrorism programs, the Department of State has provided a monitoring system to several countries, including high-risk countries, and continues to expand the distribution of that system. The department's assistance includes software and equipment to monitor travel as well as training and maintenance. Based on information from the department and the cost of similar reports, CBO estimates that the requirements to submit plans and reports to the Congress would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2018-2022 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting H.R. 1196 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1196 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 1196 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Sunita D'Monte (for the Department of State) and Mark Grabowicz (for DHS). The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.