



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

September 18, 2017

**H.R. 3229**

**A bill to protect the safety of judges by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in their financial disclosure reports, and for other purposes**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on September 7, 2017*

The Ethics in Government Act of 1978 requires certain government officials to file public disclosures of their financial and employment history. H.R. 3229 would extend through 2027 the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in financial disclosure reports of judicial officers and employees if the Judicial Conference determines that such disclosure could endanger the individual. Under current law, that authority expires on December 31, 2017.

Based on information from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts regarding the number of requests to redact sensitive information, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3229 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting H.R. 3229 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3229 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 3229 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

On August 16, 2017, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1584 as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on July 26, 2017. The bills are similar, and CBO's estimates of the budgetary effects are the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Janani Shankaran. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.