



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 18, 2017

H.R. 3244

A bill to amend title 5, United State Code, to provide for annual surveys of Federal employees, and for other purposes

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight
and Government Reform on July 19, 2017*

H.R. 3244 would expand the requirements for administering the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey. The National Defense Authorization Act for 2004 requires agencies to conduct annual employee surveys across the federal government. Under the bill, the survey would need to include new agency-specific questions and would require additional oversight from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Congress. The bill also would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to study the incentives agencies use to encourage employee participation in the surveys.

Based on an analysis of information from OPM, CBO expects that most of the survey information referenced in H.R. 3244 is already collected and that there would be minimal administrative costs associated with expanding the existing surveys. Thus, CBO estimates any additional costs would total less than \$500,000 annually; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. In addition, and based on similar reports, CBO estimates that the cost of the study by GAO would not be significant.

The bill could affect direct spending by agencies not funded through annual appropriations; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. CBO estimates, however, that any net increase in spending by those agencies would be negligible. Enacting H.R. 3244 would not affect revenues.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3244 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 3244 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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