



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

May 9, 2018

H.R. 5520
VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2018

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
on May 8, 2018*

H.R. 5520 would allow the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to conduct and support research related to the use of medical cannabis in the treatment of veterans with chronic pain, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other health conditions. The bill would codify VA's existing authority to conduct such research. On that basis, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5520 would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2019-2023 period, primarily to prepare and submit the necessary reports to the Congress. That spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting H.R. 5520 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5520 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

H.R. 5520 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Ann E. Futrell. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.