

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 22, 2018

S. 3137 Reforming Government Act of 2018

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on September 26, 2018

S. 3137 would amend federal law concerning the authority of the President to reorganize the federal government. Specifically, the bill would authorize the President to develop a plan to reorganize the federal government and to present that plan to the Congress under an expedited legislative procedure. The new authority would last for two years after enactment. The Administration would need to report regularly to the Congress on the status, costs, and savings of any resulting reorganization. Finally, the Congressional Budget Office would be required to prepare a financial analysis of any reorganization plan submitted to the Congress under S. 3137.

CBO has no basis to estimate the number of government reorganizations that may be proposed under the bill. Executive Order 13781 required the Office of Management Budget to develop a plan to reorganize the executive branch. That plan was released in June 2018. Any significant budgetary effects from implementing government reorganization plans would depend on future legislation. Thus, CBO estimates that implementing S. 3137 would have no significant effect on the federal budget because it would not expand the duties of executive agencies.

Enacting S. 3137 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 3137 would not significantly increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

S. 3137 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

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