

S. 153, Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on July 10, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Deficit Effect	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	1	n.e.
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
n.e. = not estimated			

S. 153 would modify the requirements and selection criteria of several National Science Foundation programs to promote wider participation by veterans. The bill also would direct the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to establish an interagency working group to improve participation by veterans in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, and to develop a strategic plan to address barriers for veterans in those fields. Finally, S. 153 would require the Government Accountability Office to study the academic success rates of veterans pursuing STEM degrees.

Based on the costs of similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$1 million over the 2019-2024 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Most of that amount would be for additional OSTP staff to manage working group activities and prepare the strategic plan.

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