

H.R. 2647, Safer Occupancy Furniture Flammability Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on July 17, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	1	not estimated
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?	Yes, Under Threshold
		Contains private-sector mandate?	Yes, Under Threshold

H.R. 2647 would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to adopt the California flammability standard (Technical Bulletin 117-2013) as the federal standard for upholstered furniture.

On the basis of information from the CPSC, CBO expects that the commission would require, on average, the equivalent of one full-time employee annually over the 2020-2024 period to complete and enforce the final rule. Thus, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2647 would cost about \$1 million over the 2020-2024 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

H.R. 2647 would impose an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by preempting state laws and regulations that protect against the risk of fire or the spread of fire in upholstered furniture. Although that preemption would limit the application of state laws and regulations, CBO estimates that H.R. 2647 would impose no duty on state governments that would result in additional spending or a loss of revenues. Consequently, the cost of the mandate would not exceed the threshold established in UMRA for intergovernmental mandates (\$82 million in 2019, adjusted annually for inflation).

H.R. 2647 also would impose a private-sector mandate as defined in UMRA by requiring manufacturers of upholstered furniture to comply with the California standard for flammability. Based on previous research by the CPSC into the cost of meeting furniture flammability standards and the fact that many affected products already meet the California



standard, CBO estimates that the cost of the mandate would not exceed the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$164 million in 2019, adjusted annually for inflation).

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Philippa Haven (for federal costs) and Andrew Laughlin (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.