

S. 2750, Operation Stonegarden Authorization Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on November 6, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	8	412	461
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

S. 2750 would codify Operation Stonegarden, a grant program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Under the program, FEMA awards grants to state and tribal law enforcement agencies to enhance security along the nation’s borders and to improve coordination between those agencies and the federal government. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$110 million annually through 2024 to award grants.

CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted in 2020. In 2020, FEMA received appropriations totaling \$90 million to administer the program, thus, CBO estimates \$20 million of that total authorization would remain effective in 2020. Using information provided by FEMA, CBO estimates that, implementing S. 2750 would cost \$412 million over the 2020-2025 period and \$49 million after 2025, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

S. 2750 also would require FEMA to collect and maintain information on each grant, establish guidelines for tracking program performance and conducting audits, and report additional information to the Congress. To implement those additional requirements, CBO estimates that FEMA would need to hire one additional employee at an average annual cost of about \$150,000.

The costs of the legislation (detailed in Table 1) fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development).

**Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 2750**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2020-2025
	2020 ^a	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Operation Stonegarden Grants							
Authorization	20	110	110	110	110	0	460
Estimated Outlays	8	50	81	100	106	66	411
Administrative Costs							
Estimated Authorization	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
Estimated Outlays	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
Total Changes							
Estimated Authorization	20	110	110	110	110	*	461
Estimated Outlays	8	50	81	110	106	66	412

Components may not sum to the totals because of rounding, * = between zero and \$500,000.

a. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$110 million in 2020 for Operation Stonegarden. In 2020, the Congress provided \$90 million for that purpose. Thus, CBO shows an authorization of \$20 million in 2020, the difference between the authorized amount (\$110 million) and the amount appropriated in 2020 (\$90 million).

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jon Sperl. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.