

H.R. 5750, Streamlining GI Bill Processing Act of 2020

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on March 12, 2020

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)	*	*	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 2031?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 5750 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure that all beneficiaries who are eligible for education benefits from the department are able to access an electronic version of their Certificate of Eligibility online by August 1, 2021. Under current law, VA pays education benefits under several programs for eligible service members, veterans, and their dependents. Potential beneficiaries submit an application online, by mail, or in person, and VA reviews the application and determines whether the applicant is eligible. Beneficiaries of some programs who have an authenticated online account with VA can access their certificate online, but many people can only receive one in the mail.

The department currently plans to change its information technology systems so that it will be able to provide electronic Certificates of Eligibility to all beneficiaries; however, it does not expect that it will have those changes in place by the deadline established in the bill. Thus, CBO expects that implementing the legislation would accelerate those changes somewhat but would not significantly affect discretionary costs over the 2020-2025 period.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Paul B.A. Holland. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.