

H.R. 7623, Passport Backlog Elimination Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on July 29, 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. 7623 would require the Department of State to report to the Congress on its plan to eliminate the backlog of passport applications. It also would require the department's Inspector General to report to the Congress on the department's efforts to implement that plan.

In March 2020 the department significantly reduced its passport operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in a backlog of more than one million passport applications. The department is in the process of reopening passport agencies and expects to resolve the backlog in calendar year 2020.

On the basis of information from the department, CBO estimates that providing the required reports would cost the department less than \$500,000 over the 2020-2025 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sunita D'Monte. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.