

H.R. 6636, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2020

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 29, 2020

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2021	2021-2025	2021-2030
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. 6636 would require the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to allow anonymous reporting of incidents of sexual harassment and sexual assault involving NOAA employees. The bill also would require that an investigation into any such reports begin within 48 hours of the incident being reported and that any evidence of a crime be referred to law enforcement officials.

Additionally, the bill would require NOAA to develop, within three years of enactment, a system that allows for confidential reporting of a sexual assault without dissemination of the person’s personally identifiable information, except as necessary for receiving services, and without automatically triggering an investigation.

Using information about NOAA’s current sexual assault and sexual harassment policy, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6636 would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2020-2025 period. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.



On December 20, 2019, CBO transmitted a [cost estimate for S. 2782](#), a bill to improve provisions of law relating to sexual harassment and assault prevention at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on November 13, 2019. The two pieces of legislation are similar, and CBO's estimates of their costs are the same.

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