

## Reconciliation Recommendations of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

As ordered reported on February 11, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2021	2021-2030	2021-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	<b>10,720</b>	<b>16,612</b>	<b>16,612</b>
Revenues	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	<b>10,720</b>	<b>16,612</b>	<b>16,612</b>
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
Increases on-budget deficits in any year after 2030?	<b>No</b>	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	<b>No</b>
		Contains private-sector mandate?	<b>No</b>
CBO has not reviewed the legislation for effects on spending subject to appropriation.			

The reconciliation recommendations of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs would appropriate \$17 billion to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for health care, job training, and administrative purposes. In total, enacting the legislation would increase direct spending by \$16.6 billion over the 2021-2030 period, CBO estimates.

The legislation would appropriate \$13.5 billion to provide health care for veterans in VA facilities and to purchase care for veterans from other providers. In addition, section 8007 would require VA to waive copayments from veterans for medical treatment during the period between April 6, 2020, and September 30, 2021. It also would require the department to reimburse veterans who have already made copayments during that period. Under current law, VA will spend those collections from copayments to pay for some costs of providing health care; thus the budgetary effect of waiving copayments would be offset by a reduction in spending for health care. Section 8007 would provide an additional \$2 billion for health care to replace some of those forgone collections. Section 8004 would provide \$0.8 billion for the construction and operation of extended care facilities for veterans that are run by state governments.

Section 8006 would require VA to provide job training assistance for up to 17,250 eligible veterans who are unemployed because of the coronavirus pandemic and would provide \$0.4 billion for that purpose. The legislation would also appropriate \$0.4 billion for administrative purposes such as processing benefits claims, improving VA's supply chain, and conducting audits by VA's Inspector General.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 700 (veterans benefits and services).

**Table 1.  
Estimated Increases in Direct Spending Under Reconciliation Recommendations of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2021-2030	2021-2031
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		
<b>Health Care &amp; Medical Treatment</b>													
Budget Authority	13,482	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,482	13,482
Estimated Outlays	8,729	3,251	948	95	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,118	13,118
<b>Waiver of Copays</b>													
Budget Authority	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,000	2,000
Estimated Outlays	1,772	180	16	8	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	1,988	1,988
<b>Extended Care Facilities</b>													
Budget Authority	750	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	750	750
Estimated Outlays	113	203	225	158	23	23	0	0	0	0	0	745	745
<b>Job Training Assistance</b>													
Budget Authority	386	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	386	386
Estimated Outlays	13	307	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	386	386
<b>Claims Processing</b>													
Budget Authority	272	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	272	272
Estimated Outlays	68	109	82	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	267	267
<b>Supply Chain Improvement</b>													
Budget Authority	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
Estimated Outlays	20	70	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	98
<b>Inspector General</b>													
Budget Authority	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Estimated Outlays	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
<b>Total Changes</b>													
Budget Authority	17,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17,000	17,000
Estimated Outlays	10,720	4,124	1,346	269	124	29	0	0	0	0	0	16,612	16,612

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. The net changes in outlays

that are subject to those pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in Table 1. Enacting the legislation would not affect revenues.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Etaf Khan. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.