

At a Glance

H.R. 350, Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act of 2022

As reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on April 21, 2022

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2026	2022-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0

Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	105	not estimated
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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 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

The bill would

- Authorize whatever amounts are necessary for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to operate offices dedicated to combating domestic terrorism and to support those offices with adequate levels of staff and other resources
- Create an interagency task force to investigate and combat white supremacist infiltration of the uniformed services and federal law enforcement agencies

Estimated budgetary effects would mainly stem from

- Spending by the FBI, DOJ, and DHS to hire additional agents, intelligence analysts, attorneys, and other staff

Areas of significant uncertainty include

- Decisions made by federal law enforcement officials about the number of employees and the level of other resources necessary to adequately counter domestic terrorism threats

Detailed estimate begins on the next page.

Bill Summary

Under current law, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) investigate, prosecute, and work to prevent acts of terrorism—both domestic and international in nature. H.R. 350 would require each of those agencies to operate offices dedicated to investigating, preventing, and prosecuting domestic terrorism and would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for those offices.

Under the bill, the agencies would be required to produce a joint report every six months that assesses, quantifies, and characterizes domestic terrorism threats nationwide, including threats posed by white supremacist and neo-Nazi groups. Each agency’s domestic terrorism office would be directed to focus its resources on the most significant threats, as determined by the number of incidents from each threat category identified in the joint report during the preceding six months.

Estimated Federal Cost

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 350 is shown in Table 1. The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

Table 1.						
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 350						
	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars					2022-2026
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Federal Bureau of Investigation						
Estimated Authorization	0	11	19	26	27	83
Estimated Outlays	0	9	17	25	27	78
Department of Justice						
Estimated Authorization	0	2	5	7	7	21
Estimated Outlays	0	2	4	7	7	20
Department of Homeland Security						
Estimated Authorization	0	1	2	2	2	7
Estimated Outlays	0	1	2	2	2	7
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization	0	14	26	35	36	111
Estimated Outlays	0	12	23	34	36	105

Basis of Estimate

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted late in fiscal year 2022 and that the estimated amounts will be appropriated annually beginning that year. Estimated

outlays are based on an analysis of information provided by the FBI, DOJ, and DHS, as well as historical patterns of spending for similar activities and programs.

Spending Subject to Appropriation

H.R. 350 would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for the FBI, DOJ, and DHS to operate offices dedicated to combating domestic terrorism.

Using information provided by each agency about current staffing levels committed to domestic terrorism and anticipated future needs under the act, CBO expects that the agencies would require additional staff and other resources to implement H.R. 350. CBO expects that the FBI, DOJ, and DHS would use the added personnel to bolster the existing activities of each agency. In total, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$105 million over the 2022-2026 period.

Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI currently commits about 1,100 personnel to work focused on countering domestic terrorism, largely organized under the agency's Domestic Terrorism Operations Section. The agency employs about 730 special agents—distributed across 56 field offices and the agency's headquarters—focused on disrupting domestic terrorism threats, making arrests, and supporting state and local law enforcement. The FBI also employs attorneys, intelligence analysts, and other staff in support of those efforts.

Using information from the agency, CBO expects that the FBI would need an additional 55 special agents at an average annual cost of \$230,000 each (including salary, benefits, and overtime pay) to implement the act's requirements. CBO estimates the agency also would need an additional 18 intelligence analysts and 58 supporting staff, at an average annual cost of \$140,000, for management, intelligence gathering, and other operational duties in support of those agents. CBO estimates that the cost of those additional personnel, which we expect would occur gradually over the next five years, would total \$78 million over the 2022-2026 period.

Department of Justice. In 2021, DOJ committed 26 attorneys, working in the U.S. Attorneys' Offices nationwide, to investigating and prosecuting cases involving domestic terrorism, at a cost of \$230,000 each. Using information provided by DOJ, CBO expects that the agency would need 25 additional U.S. attorneys to address the act's new domestic terrorism efforts. CBO estimates that the cost for those attorneys would total \$20 million over the 2022-2026 period.

Department of Homeland Security. Under current law, DHS's Counter Terrorism Mission Center currently dedicates 12 analysts to full-time work gathering, analyzing, and disseminating intelligence on domestic terrorism threats. Using information from DHS, CBO expects that the agency would need 9 additional analysts at an annual cost of roughly

\$165,000 each. CBO estimates the cost for those analysts would total \$7 million over the 2022-2026 period.

In addition, H.R. 350 would require several reports to the Congress from the FBI, DOJ, and DHS, including a recurring joint report on the incidence of domestic terrorism and another on domestic terrorism training provided by the agencies. Finally, the act would require the agencies to form an interagency task force to analyze and combat white supremacist and neo-Nazi infiltration of the uniformed services and federal law enforcement agencies; the task force also would be required to report to the Congress. CBO estimates that the costs of the investigation and all reporting requirements would total about \$2 million across the three agencies over the 2022-2026 period. The costs of those reporting requirements and the task force are included within the costs for each agency detailed above.

Uncertainty

The costs of implementing H.R. 350 could be higher or lower than CBO estimates, depending on decisions made by federal law enforcement officials about the number of employees and level of other resources necessary to adequately counter domestic terrorism threats identified in the future.

Pay-As-You-Go Considerations: None.

Increase in Long-Term Deficits: None.

Mandates: None.

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