

H.R. 1546, Combating Online Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2021

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on February 16, 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) | * | * | 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 2032? | No | Contains intergovernmental mandate? | No |
| | | Contains private-sector mandate? | No |
| * = between zero and \$500,000. | | | |

The authorization for the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking expired on October 7, 2021. H.R. 1546 would renew the authorization through October 7, 2026. However, the task force continued to operate and fulfill ongoing responsibilities under an Executive Order for combating wildlife trafficking; therefore, CBO estimates that extending its authorization would not affect the federal budget.

H.R. 1546 also would require the task force to start a working group to collaborate with information technology and social media companies to deter wildlife trafficking on the Internet and to report to the Congress on those actions. The bill would require the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development to develop a strategy for partnering with information technology and social media companies to reduce wildlife trafficking online.

In its 2021 report to the Congress, the task force indicated that federal entities are increasing their efforts to coordinate with the private sector to address trafficking online. Thus, many of the bill's requirements are being met under current law.

On the basis of information about similar reporting requirements, CBO estimates that providing the reports and developing the strategy required under the bill would cost less than



\$500,000 over the 2022-2026 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.