

H.R. 7910 would change federal gun laws by creating new federal crimes and expanding federal firearms regulations.

Estimated Budgetary Effects of H.R. 7910, the Protecting Our Kids Act

As posted on the website of the Clerk of the House on June 6, 2022

<https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20220606/BILLS-117HR7910RH-RCP117-48.pdf>

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2022-2027	2022-2032
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032		
Increases in Direct Spending													
Budget Authority	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2	5
Estimated Outlays	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2	5
Increases in Revenues													
Estimated Revenues	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3	6
Net Decrease in the Deficit From Changes in Direct Spending and Revenues													
Effect on the Deficit	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	-1
Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation													
Authorization ^a	0	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	50	100
Estimated Outlays	0	1	4	9	11	11	10	10	10	10	10	36	86

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding; * = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.

a. The bill contains a specified authorization of \$10 million for grants to law enforcement agencies. Other provisions of the bill would impose costs that CBO has not yet estimated.

Staff Contacts: Jon Sperl (federal costs); Rachel Austin and the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation (mandates)

H.R. 7910 would change federal gun laws by creating new federal crimes and expanding federal firearms regulations. Specifically, the bill would:

- Raise the purchasing age for semiautomatic rifles from 18 to 21;
- Ban the import, sale, manufacture, transfer, and possession of large-capacity ammunition feeding devices;
- Establish new federal crimes for gun trafficking and straw purchases;
- Require gun owners to meet residential gun storage requirements and establish criminal penalties for violating those requirements;
- Require registration of existing bump-stock-type devices under the National Firearms Act and bar the manufacture, sale, or possession of new bump-stock-type devices for civilian use; and
- Change the definition of “ghost gun” and require background checks on all firearm sales.

Because people who violate the bill’s provisions would be subject to criminal fines, the federal government could collect additional fines under the legislation. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, deposited in the Crime Victims Fund, and later spent without further appropriation action. Using data from the Department of Justice (DOJ) on criminal penalties charged for firearms convictions in recent years,

See also CBO’s *Cost Estimates Explained*, www.cbo.gov/publication/54437;
How CBO Prepares Cost Estimates, www.cbo.gov/publication/53519; and *Glossary*, www.cbo.gov/publication/42904.



CBO estimates that the bill would increase revenues by \$6 million over the 2022-2032 period and would increase direct spending by \$5 million over that period.

H.R. 7910 also would affect spending subject to appropriation by DOJ and the federal judiciary. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million annually over the 2023-2033 period for DOJ to make grants to local law enforcement agencies for programs that fund the acquisition and distribution of firearm storage devices to the public. CBO estimates that making those grants would cost \$86 million over the 2023-2032 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. In addition, DOJ and the courts would incur costs to promulgate and enforce regulations, and to prosecute defendants. CBO has not completed an estimate of those costs, which would be paid subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation has reviewed the tax provisions of the bill and determined that they contain no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

CBO has reviewed the nontax provisions of H.R. 7910 and determined that they contain private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Those mandates include a ban on the possession and sale of bump stocks and large capacity ammunition feeding devices, requirements for storing firearms on residential premises in certain circumstances, and prohibitions on the possession of ghost guns and on the sale of some semiautomatic firearms to individuals under 21 years of age. The mandated entities would include manufacturers, dealers and current and eligible potential owners of the banned firearms and related items, and individuals who store their firearms in their residence. The costs of those mandates would primarily be the forgone revenue from reduced sales of firearms and related items, and storage costs. CBO estimates the aggregate cost of mandates in the nontax provisions of the bill would exceed the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$184 million in 2022, adjusted annually for inflation).

CBO has determined that the nontax provisions of the bill contain no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA.