

S. 349, Military Spouse Employment Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on March 29, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2023	2023-2028	2023-2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	*	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	1	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

S. 349 would authorize federal agencies to hire, without going through competitive processes, the spouses of members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty and spouses of disabled or deceased members of the armed forces when those spouses apply for remote work positions. That change would not affect the total number of people the federal government employs, nor would it affect their compensation. However, agencies might modify administrative processes when implementing the bill. CBO estimates that the costs to make those changes would be insignificant.

Most agencies would fund those costs from discretionary appropriations. However, enacting the bill also could affect direct spending by some agencies that are allowed to use fees, receipts from the sale of goods, and other collections to cover operating costs. CBO estimates that any net changes in direct spending by those agencies would be negligible because most of them can adjust amounts collected to reflect changes in operating costs.

The bill also would require the Government Accountability Office to report on the use of remote work by federal agencies. CBO estimates that satisfying that requirement would cost \$1 million over the 2023-2028 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.



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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phillip L. Swagel".

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office