

S. 829, Disclosing Foreign Influence in Lobbying 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)	0	0	0
Revenues	*	*	*
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	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?	Yes, Under Threshold
* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

S. 829 would amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require lobbyists to identify any connection with a foreign government or political party that plans, supervises, directs, or controls any effort of that lobbyist, regardless of those entities’ financial contributions to the lobbying effort. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would not significantly increase the administrative costs of the House of Representatives or the Senate over the 2023-2028 period. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Failure to disclose the newly required information could increase collections of civil fines, which are recorded in the budget as revenues. CBO estimates that those collections would not be significant in any year or over the 2023-2033 period because of the relatively small number of cases likely to be affected.

S. 829 would impose a private-sector mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by requiring lobbyists to disclose information on foreign governments and foreign political parties that participate in or supervise their lobbying activities. CBO estimates that the cost of the mandate would not exceed the annual private-sector threshold established in UMRA (\$198 million in 2023, adjusted annually for inflation).



S. 829 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Matthew Pickford (for federal costs) and Andrew Laughlin (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phillip L. Swagel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office