

H.R. 562, Improving Veterans Access to Congressional Services Act of 2023

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on April 28, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2023	2023-2028	2023-2033
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
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?	No
		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 zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 562 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to allow Members of Congress to use VA facilities during normal business hours for the purposes of meeting with veterans who are constituents. Under the bill, VA would be required to issue regulations to ensure that the use of the facility does not interfere with VA operations or result in violations of the Hatch Act. It also would require VA to set rental rates for spaces that are consistent with rates charged by the General Services Administration.

Under current law, the department has a policy for the use of meeting space in VA facilities and makes such space available to Members of Congress. CBO estimates that the department would incur minimal administrative costs to identify available spaces, establish rental rates, and publish regulations as required by the bill. Based on costs for similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2023-2028 period. Such spending would be subjected to the availability of appropriated funds.

See also

[CBO's Cost Estimates Explained](#), [CBO Describes Its Cost-Estimating Process](#), [Glossary](#)



The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Etaf Khan. The estimate was reviewed by Chad Chirico, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip L. Swagel".

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office