

S. 1194, Recycling and Composting Accountability Act

As reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on June 22, 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)	0	21	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

S. 1194 would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to collect data, prepare reports, and develop best practices for recycling and composting programs in the United States. Under the bill, EPA would be required to:

- Collect standardized recycling data twice a year from states, communities, and Indian tribes and develop and update an inventory of recycling facilities;
- Assess composting infrastructure in communities to identify barriers to implementing a national composting strategy;
- Evaluate and report on the rates of recycling and composting at federal agencies every two years, in coordination with the General Accountability Office; and
- Develop metrics and report on the rate of recyclable materials diverted from the recycling process and on the value of recycled and composted materials at the point when they are sold.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1194 would cost EPA \$21 million over the 2023-2028 period. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

EPA would incur administrative and contract costs to collect and standardize data and expand databases to support analysis and reporting, and CBO expects that most of those

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costs would be incurred in 2024 and 2025. Using information from the agency, CBO estimates that it would need 30 employees in the first year, with that number declining to about 10 employees by 2028. After accounting for anticipated inflation, CBO expects the average cost per employee would be \$188,000 each year. Further, CBO estimates that the agency would need about \$4 million to pay contractors to maintain databases, collect new data, and update reports.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

**Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 1194**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2023-2028
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
Estimated Authorization	0	8	5	3	3	2	21
Estimated Outlays	0	6	6	3	3	3	21

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

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