

H.R. 357, Ensuring Accountability in Agency Rulemaking Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on May 24, 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)	0	10	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 zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 357 would require nearly all rules issued by federal agencies to be initiated by a senior appointee and signed by a person appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) within the Office of Management and Budget would issue guidance for agencies to implement the new procedures.

Using information about the current regulatory processes provided by the Congressional Research Service and selected agencies, CBO estimates that the executive branch issues between 3,000 and 4,000 final rules annually. CBO expects that implementing the bill would increase administrative costs at OIRA and for federal agencies to initiate and finalize regulations. CBO estimates that costs for the government as a whole would total about \$2 million annually and \$10 million over the 2023-2028 period; any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting H.R. 357 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.

See also

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



CBO also expects that enacting H.R. 357 could delay the issuance of some rules and therefore their effective dates. However, because of the number and variety of federal rules issued each year, CBO cannot determine whether such delays would result in costs or savings for the government. Thus, CBO has no basis on which to estimate the budgetary effects of those changes.

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

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

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office