

## H.R. 369, NIST Wildland Fire Communications and Information Dissemination Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology on June 21, 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	14	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
		<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
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

H.R. 369 would require the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to research standards for coordinating public safety efforts among wildland firefighters, fire response officials, and member agencies of the National Interagency Fire Center. NIST also would need to research how to improve existing systems that facilitate communication between such officials and firefighters and report to the Congress on how to improve coordination standards among such groups. Finally, the bill would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report to the Congress on the extent to which member agencies have implemented the published recommendations.

The bill would allocate \$3 million from amounts made available to NIST for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028 to implement the bill's requirements. Assuming the availability of appropriated funds and based on historical spending patterns for similar activities, CBO estimates that it would cost the agency \$14 million over the 2024-2028 period to implement H.R. 369. In addition, CBO estimates it would cost GAO less than \$500,000 to complete the required report; such spending would be subject 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 David Hughes. The estimate was reviewed by Emily Stern, Senior Adviser for Budget Analysis.

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

Phillip L. Swagel  
Director, Congressional Budget Office