

S. 2291, Northern Border Coordination Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on July 26, 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	84	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	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Mandate Effects	
		Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

S. 2291 would require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish a Northern Border Coordination Center along the northern border of the United States within one year of enactment. The center would be colocated with its component units, including Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the Coast Guard, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement and would oversee northern border security activities, serve as a training location and testing ground for new technology, and support counter-unmanned aircraft operations. The bill also would require CBP’s Air and Marine Operations to maintain quick deployment capabilities and impose various reporting requirements.

In total, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2291 would cost \$84 million over the 2024-2028 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

See also

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



**Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 2291**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2023-2028
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
Estimated Authorization	0	19	20	21	22	22	104
Estimated Outlays	0	10	15	18	20	21	84

Based on the costs of similar inter-agency coordination activities across DHS’s component units, CBO estimates that DHS would need 40 employees at a cost of \$8 million in 2024. Using information about DHS spending on nonpersonnel costs, such as facilities, transportation, equipment maintenance, and supplies and materials, CBO estimates that the department would incur an additional \$5 million in administrative costs in 2024. Accounting for anticipated inflation, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2291 would cost \$70 million for administrative and personnel costs over the 2024-2028 period.

In addition, CBO anticipates that DHS would need to upgrade existing facilities to accommodate the center and the additional personnel. Based on the timeline and costs of similar projects, CBO estimates that those improvements would cost \$14 million over the 2024-2028 period. Finally, CBO expects the bill’s reporting requirements would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2024-2028 period, based on the costs of similar activities.

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

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office