

H.R. 5826, No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on October 19, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2028	2024-2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	*
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. 5826 would broaden the Department of State’s authority to deny entry into the United States to diplomats who represent their countries at the United Nations. The bill also would require the department to report to the Congress on several matters such as its actions under the bill, the wrongful detention and hostage-taking by or at the direction of Iran, and the status of blocked or seized Iranian assets.

Under current law, the department can deny entry to representatives to the United Nations if it determines that they have engaged in espionage, terrorism, or other activities that threaten U.S. national security. H.R. 5826 would broaden that authority to allow the exclusion of individuals who have been sanctioned for supporting terrorism or the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. CBO expects that countries would choose replacements for any of their diplomats who were denied entry.

On the basis of information about the cost to prepare similar reports, CBO estimates that satisfying the bill’s reporting requirement would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2024-2028 period. Any 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 Sunita D'Monte. The estimate was reviewed by Christina Hawley Anthony, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

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

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office