

H.R. 1246, a bill to authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian Tribes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on January 17, 2024

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)	*	*	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

* = between zero and \$500,000.

H.R. 1246 would allow Indian tribes to lease their land held in trust for a term of up to 99 years with approval of the Department of the Interior (DOI). Under current law, the tribes cannot lease their trust land for more than 25 years, with an option to renew the lease once for another 25 years. Any proceeds from leases would accrue to the tribes. Using information from DOI, CBO estimates that the cost to implement H.R. 1246 would be insignificant; any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

On January 17, 2024, CBO transmitted a [cost estimate for S. 1322](#), the Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments Act of 2023, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, on July 19, 2023. The bills are similar, though S. 1322 also would allow individual Indian owners of restricted land to lease their land for up to 99 years and provide tribes with the authority to approve certain types of rights-of-way without obtaining approval from DOI. H.R. 1246 does not include that provision. CBO's estimated costs are the same for both bills.

See also

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



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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phillip L. Swagel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office