

H.R. 4016, Veteran Fraud Reimbursement Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on December 5, 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 -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

H.R. 4016 would modify the process that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) follows when replacing benefits for veterans who have been defrauded by fiduciaries appointed to manage those benefits.

Under current law, veterans and survivors who are deemed unable to manage benefits they receive from VA may have someone assigned to administer those benefits on their behalf. Those fiduciaries, who are appointed and supervised by VA, are responsible for accepting the benefits and ensuring that they are used to support the intended recipient. When fiduciaries misuse some or all of those benefits, VA must reissue the misused portion to the intended beneficiary or a successor fiduciary. Before the department reissues those benefits it must assess whether negligence by VA contributed to the misuse of benefits, but VA reissues misused benefits regardless of the results of those assessments.

H.R. 4016 would allow VA to reissue benefits before it determines whether its negligence contributed to the misuse. Because the bill would change the timing—but not the amounts—of benefit payments (which are paid from mandatory appropriations), enacting the bill would not affect direct spending for VA benefits.

See also

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



The bill also would require VA to establish oversight methods to determine when misuse may have occurred. VA's new oversight process could cost more or less than the current one. CBO expects that any change in costs would be insignificant. Any changes in spending would be subject to appropriation.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Logan Smith. 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