

H.R. 4190, Restoring Benefits to Defrauded Veterans 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)	0	0	0
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

H.R. 4190 would specify how the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) should distribute certain benefits to survivors of intended recipients who die before those benefits are paid.

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.

Unlike other accrued VA benefits, current law does not specify the hierarchy for distributing reissued benefits among a recipient's survivors if the intended recipient dies before VA makes the payment. Under the bill, the reissued benefits would be paid according to the same hierarchy used for distributing other accrued VA benefits to survivors of deceased beneficiaries. Because the bill would not affect the amount of reissued funds (which are paid from mandatory appropriations), enacting the bill would not affect direct spending for VA benefits. Implementing the bill would not affect the administrative costs of distributing reissued benefits to survivors, CBO estimates.

See also

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



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