

H.R. 5969, Improving Travel for Families Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Homeland Security on November 8, 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)	*	*	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 -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

H.R. 5969 would permit children who are 10 years of age or younger and not members of the Global Entry program to accompany their parent or legal guardian who is a member of the program through the Global Entry lane. Under current law, those children must have their own Global Entry membership, which uses automated kiosks to provide expedited processing to pre-approved international air travelers who are entering the United States. In addition, the bill would allow parents or legal guardians to schedule a single application appointment for multiple children ages 10 and under rather than multiple individual appointments.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) administers the Global Entry program and charges a fee for each application to cover the program's operational costs. Currently, the fee is \$100 and CBP can adjust that amount through regulation. Collections of that fee are classified in the budget as an offset to CBP's annual appropriation.

CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted early in calendar year 2024. Data from CBP suggests that children 10 years of age or younger generally accounted for about 4 percent of total annual applications to the Global Entry program in recent years; for example, in 2023 they accounted for 153,000 of the 3.4 million applications. Based on CBO's projections of the number of future applications, CBO estimates fee collections would be \$17 million lower

See also

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



in 2025 under H.R. 5969, with that amount rising each year. We estimate that CBP would need to raise the application fee by \$4.50 beginning partway through 2024 to recoup those lost collections. On that basis, and assuming CBP raises the fee by that amount, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have a negligible effect on spending subject to appropriation, assuming the appropriation of amounts equal to those collections each year.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phillip L. Swagel', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office