Congressional Budget Office
Cost Estimate

May 29, 2024

S. 4036, Government Spending Oversight Act of 2024

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on April 10, 2024

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2029	2024-2034
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	34	not estimated

Increases *net direct spending* in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
		Mandate Effects	
Increases *on-budget deficits* in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

* = between zero and $500,000.

S. 4036 would establish the Government Oversight Spending Committee and would authorize the appropriation of $17 million in 2026 and 2027 for the work of that committee.

The committee would be housed within the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency and would replace the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee that was created by the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136) in March 2020. The pandemic response committee is currently composed of 21 federal inspectors general that work to collaboratively oversee federal pandemic relief spending; the committee's authorization expires at the end of fiscal year 2025. The new committee would cover all government spending and would need to coordinate with all relevant inspectors general beginning in fiscal year 2026.

Based on historical spending patterns for similar activities and assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 4036 would cost $34 million over the 2024-2029 period.

The bill also would allow the new committee to spend the unobligated balances of the pandemic response committee. Under current law, any balances that remain unobligated at the end of fiscal year 2025 will expire and cannot be spent for new purposes thereafter. Thus,

any additional spending of those balances by the new committee would be considered direct spending. CBO estimates that any increase in direct spending under the bill would not be significant in any year or over the 2024-2034 period because we expect most of the existing balances will be spent before 2026.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 800 (general government).

Table 1.
Estimated Budgetary Effects of S. 4036

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2024-2029
Authorization Level	0	0	17	17	0	0	34
Estimated Outlays	0	0	15	17	2	0	34

CBO estimates that enacting S. 4036 would increase direct spending by less than $500,000 because the bill would extend the period of availability for some previously appropriated funds that would otherwise expire at the end of fiscal year 2025.

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

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office