

H.R. 7533, Modernizing Retrospective Regulatory Review Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability on March 7, 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	15	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> 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.			

H.R. 7533 would require the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) to issue guidance on the use of technology to conduct retrospective reviews of existing federal regulations. Under the bill, agencies would use that guidance to create and execute a strategy for reviewing their current regulations. The bill would require agencies to report to OIRA and the Congress on their retrospective review plans and would require OIRA to report to the Congress on the extent that existing federal regulations are available to the public in a machine-readable format.

Federal agencies issue regulations pursuant to statutory authority granted by the Congress and the Congressional Research Service has reported that 3,000 to 4,000 final rules are published each year. OIRA publishes the regulatory and deregulatory activities of each agency in the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions. Recent administrations have initiated different regulatory retrospective review processes meant to reduce outdated and ineffective rules under Executive Orders 13563, 13610, and 13771. While those processes resulted in regulatory changes and deregulatory actions, they had no significant effect on the scope or scale of the regulatory process.

Using information from OIRA and selected agencies, CBO expects that H.R. 7533 would build upon Executive Order 14110, which established a governmentwide effort to guide

See also

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artificial intelligence development and deployment, and would require agencies to institute retrospective review processes like those under previous administrations. Based on the cost of similar activities, CBO estimates that the additional analysis under the bill would cost \$15 million over the 2025-2029 period. That amounts to less than \$500,000 per year for each major agency. Any related spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within any budget function that contains salaries and expenses.

Table 1. Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 7533							
	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2024-2029
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
Estimated Authorization	0	2	3	4	3	3	15
Estimated Outlays	0	2	3	4	3	3	15

Enacting H.R. 7533 also could affect direct spending by some agencies that are allowed to use fees, receipts from the sale of goods, and other collections to cover operating costs. CBO estimates that any net changes in direct spending by those agencies would be negligible because most of them can adjust amounts collected to reflect changes in operating costs.

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

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