

H.R. 4550, United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025
As reported by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on November 4, 2025

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2026	2026-2031	2026-2036
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	92	92
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2037?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? Yes	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2037?	No	Mandate Effects	
		Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between -\$500,000 and zero.			

H.R. 4550 would amend, and extend through fiscal year 2030, the authority of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to carry out responsibilities under the United States Grain Standards Act, including the department’s authority to collect and spend fees for overseeing state agencies’ activities related to grain inspections and weight certifications. (The authority to collect fees from state agencies and to use collected weighing and inspection fees to cover administrative and supervisory costs expired on January 30, 2026.) The act also would allow USDA to inspect non-export grain that is loaded or unloaded at an export port.

Under current law, those fees are deposited into a fund that is credited with interest on unspent balances. That fund’s balances, including credited interest, may be used without further appropriation to cover the costs associated with overseeing state agencies’ activities related to grain inspections and weight certifications. The act also would convert the fund to a trust fund, but that change would not have a budgetary effect because the trust fund would not be substantively different from the current fund.

Finally, the act would authorize the appropriation of \$23 million annually over the 2026-2030 period for the costs of standardization, compliance, and monitoring of related activities. The appropriated amounts also would cover the cost of improving technology for



grading grain, reporting to the Congress on any deficiencies or recommendations for improving that technology, and ensuring staffing of the Grain Inspection Advisory Committee. Because the 2026 appropriation for USDA extended the authority for those activities through 2026, CBO’s estimate of the budgetary effects of the legislation reflects authorizations totaling \$92 million over the 2027-2030 period—the difference between the amounts specified in the act and the amounts provided under current law.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 350 (agriculture).

Table 1. Estimated Budgetary Effects of H.R. 4550							
	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2026-2031
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	
	Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation						
Authorization	0	23	23	23	23	0	92
Estimated Outlays	0	21	23	23	23	2	92

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4550 would decrease direct spending by a negligible amount in every year and over the 2026-2036 period.

Based on spending patterns for similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4550 would cost \$92 million over the 2026-2031 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

The fees that are collected and subsequently spent by USDA are recorded in the federal budget as direct spending. Because the fees would be spent soon after they are collected, CBO estimates that the net decrease in direct spending from extending the collection of those fees would be negligible in every year and over the 2026-2036 period.

On September 4, 2025, CBO transmitted a [cost estimate for H.R. 4550](#), the United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025, as reported by the House Committee on Agriculture on September 3, 2025. The two pieces of legislation are similar; the difference in CBO’s estimates of their budgetary effects reflects the appropriation for USDA for fiscal year 2026.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Erik O’Donoghue. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

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