

H.R. 3259, Post Quantum Cybersecurity Standards Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology on June 11, 2025

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2026	2026-2031	2026-2036
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	104	not estimated
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?	No
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2037?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 3259 would require the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, to issue and promote standards to protect against advanced cyberattacks using post-quantum cryptography (a new form of encryption). The bill also would allow NIST to provide technical assistance and award grants to entities at high risk of such attacks to support adoption of those standards.

The estimated budgetary effects of the legislation are shown in Table 1. The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 250 (General Science, Space, and Technology).

Based on the cost of a similar cybersecurity grant program administered by the Department of Homeland Security and funded at \$250 million annually for all state and local entities, CBO estimates that a more targeted grant program under the bill would cost about \$30 million each year. Because NIST is already developing relevant standards, CBO expects that the agency would implement that requirement using existing resources. Based on the cost of similar activities, CBO estimates that the administrative and reporting requirements would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2026-2031 period.

See also

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



In total, and after accounting for anticipated inflation, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$104 million over the 2026-2031 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Table 1.
Estimated Budgetary Effects of H.R. 3259

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2026-2031
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	
	Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation						
Estimated Authorization	*	30	31	32	32	33	158
Estimated Outlays	*	10	15	21	27	31	104

* = between zero and \$500,000.

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

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