



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
U.S. Congress
Washington, DC 20515

Douglas W. Elmendorf, Director

July 29, 2014

Honorable Bernie Sanders
Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you requested, the Congressional Budget Office has prepared an estimate of the budgetary effects of the conference agreement on H.R. 3230, the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, as reported on July 28, 2014. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3230 would, on net, increase the deficit by about \$10 billion over the 2014-2024 period. The act would be designated as an emergency requirement for the purposes of enforcing the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

The attached tables provide more details on CBO's estimate. Table 1 shows the effects of the act on direct spending and revenues. Table 2 shows the effects of the act on discretionary spending.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO contacts are Ann Futrell and Sarah Jennings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas W. Elmendorf".

Douglas W. Elmendorf

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Richard Burr
Ranking Member

Identical letter sent to the Honorable Jeff Miller

TABLE 1. ESTIMATE OF THE DIRECT SPENDING AND REVENUE EFFECTS FOR THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT ON H.R. 3230, THE VETERANS ACCESS, CHOICE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014, AS REPORTED ON JULY 28, 2014

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars												
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2014-2019	2014-2024
CHANGES IN DIRECT SPENDING													
Titles I, III, and VIII - Access to Care ^a													
Estimated Budget Authority	15,000	-1,340	-500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,160	13,160
Estimated Outlays	450	6,610	3,250	950	950	950	0	0	0	0	0	13,160	13,160
Title VI - Leases													
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	0	1,272	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,272	1,272
Estimated Outlays	0	0	0	64	343	419	318	127	0	0	0	826	1,271
Title VII - Other Veterans Matters													
Estimated Budget Authority	0	9	7	-189	-571	-587	-600	-617	-629	-643	-656	-1,331	-4,476
Estimated Outlays	0	9	7	-189	-552	-587	-600	-617	-650	-643	-634	-1,312	-4,456
Total Changes in Direct Spending													
Estimated Budget Authority	15,000	-1,331	-493	1,083	-571	-587	-600	-617	-629	-643	-656	13,101	9,956
Estimated Outlays	450	6,619	3,257	825	741	782	-282	-490	-650	-643	-634	12,674	9,975
CHANGES IN REVENUES													
Estimated Changes in Revenues ^b	0	-60	-20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-80	-80
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (-) IN THE DEFICIT FROM CHANGES IN DIRECT SPENDING AND REVENUES													
Estimated Impact on the Deficit	450	6,679	3,277	825	741	782	-282	-490	-650	-643	-634	12,754	10,055

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

a. Title VIII would appropriate \$15 billion to increase access to VA health care by expanding the use of care provided by non-VA entities, as authorized under section 101; by improving the department's infrastructure; and by hiring medical staff, increasing residency positions, and extending the Health Professionals Educational Assistance Program, as authorized under sections 301 and 302.

b. Negative numbers denote a reduction in revenues.

TABLE 2. ESTIMATE OF THE EFFECTS ON SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION OF THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT ON H.R. 3230, THE VETERANS ACCESS, CHOICE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014, AS REPORTED ON JULY 28, 2014

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2014-2019
Title I - Access to Care							
Estimated Authorization Level	0	24	-33	2	0	0	-7
Estimated Outlays	0	22	-33	3	1	0	-7
Title II - Health Care Administration							
Estimated Authorization Level	*	5	1	*	*	*	6
Estimated Outlays	*	5	1	*	*	*	6
Title III - Health Care Staffing							
Estimated Authorization Level	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
Estimated Outlays	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
Title IV - Sexual Trauma							
Estimated Authorization Level	*	*	1	2	2	2	7
Estimated Outlays	*	*	1	2	2	2	7
Title V - Other Health Care Matters							
Estimated Authorization Level	0	31	33	1	0	0	65
Estimated Outlays	0	28	33	4	0	0	65
Title VI - Leases							
Estimated Authorization Level	0	0	0	127	0	0	127
Estimated Outlays	0	0	0	89	32	6	127
Title VII - Other Veterans Matters							
Estimated Authorization Level	*	-32	-45	-49	-53	-57	-235
Estimated Outlays	*	-34	-43	-48	-52	-57	-235
Total Changes in Spending Subject to Appropriation							
Estimated Authorization Level	*	29	-43	83	-51	-55	-36
Estimated Outlays	*	21	-41	50	-17	-49	-36

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Notes: Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

* = less than \$500,000.