

**S. 2204, DART Act of 2019**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on December 11, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2031?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	Yes, Under Threshold
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

S. 2204 would require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to initiate a rulemaking related to maintaining a list of numbers that may not be blocked by a voice service provider. Such a list could include numbers associated with public safety facilities, government entities, or schools. In addition, the bill would require the FCC to submit to the Congress an analysis of the effectiveness of various tools to block robocalls.

CBO assumes that S. 2204 would be enacted in fiscal year 2020. Using information from the FCC, CBO expects the commission would require four attorneys for less than a full year at an annual average cost of \$210,000 each to implement the bill. In total, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2204 would cost less than \$500,000. However, under current law the FCC is authorized to collect fees sufficient to offset the appropriated costs of its regulatory activities each year; therefore, CBO estimates that the net effect on spending subject to appropriation would be negligible, assuming appropriation actions consistent with that authority.

If the FCC increases annual fee collections to offset the costs of implementing provisions in the bill, S. 2204 would increase the cost of an existing private-sector mandate on entities required to pay those fees. Using information from the FCC, CBO estimates that the incremental cost of the mandate would be small and would fall well below the annual



threshold established in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) for private-sector mandates (\$168 million in 2020, adjusted annually for inflation).

S. 2204 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are David Hughes (for federal costs) and Rachel Austin (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.