

S. 816, Diplomatic Support and Security Act of 2022

As reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on April 4, 2022

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2027	2022-2032
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	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2033?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

S. 816 would alter the Department of State’s process for investigating serious security incidents at U.S. government missions overseas to promote a culture of risk management instead of risk avoidance. The bill also would require the department to include more information about risk assessments in its monthly briefings to the Congress. On the basis of information about the costs to prepare similar reports, CBO estimates that satisfying that requirement would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2022-2027 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Under current law, the department must appoint an Accountability Review Board to investigate a security breach caused by foreign intelligence activities or a security incident involving loss of life, serious injury, or significant destruction of property. Such boards determine whether security measures were adequate and properly implemented and whether to subject any employees who are found accountable to adverse personnel actions. The board can administer oaths, issue subpoenas, and require testimony and depositions.

S. 816 would modify that process by requiring the department to conduct an internal investigation of breaches to determine whether security protocols were adequate given the conditions and known threats at the time. A Security Review Committee would assess the findings of the investigation, gather any other relevant information, and make



recommendations for corrective action to the department. Employees would not be held accountable unless they breached their duties.

Although CBO was unable to get information from the department before completing this estimate, we estimate that implementing the bill would not change the number of significant security incidents investigated by the department in any given year and expects that the costs of conducting the new type of investigation would not significantly differ from the cost of current investigations.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sunita D'Monte. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.