

H.J. Res. 117, a joint resolution providing for Congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Reconsideration of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter”

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on September 18, 2024

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2025	2025-2029	2025-2034
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
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	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 2035?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.J. Res. 117 would disapprove a final rule published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in March 2024.¹ By invoking a legislative process established in the Congressional Review Act, the resolution would repeal the rule and prohibit the agency from issuing the same or any similar rule in the future.

The rule requires states to meet stricter National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter. Particulate matter is an air pollutant generated by vehicles, fires, factories and other sources. Those particles are small enough to be inhaled and can cause adverse health effects. Under the Clean Air Act, EPA is required to establish air quality standards that are adequate to protect human health.

1. Environmental Protection Agency, “Reconsideration of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 16202 (March 6, 2024), <https://tinyurl.com/msjy2wsa>.



CBO estimates that repealing the rule would not affect the federal budget because states would be required to maintain NAAQS standards established by EPA prior to the rule. Under current law, states are responsible for developing and administering plans to meet the NAAQS standards established by EPA.

CBO estimates that any administrative costs necessary for EPA to repeal the rule would be insignificant. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Aurora Swanson. The estimate was reviewed by Ann E. Futrell, Senior Adviser for Budget Analysis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip L. Swagel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office