

## H.R. 8936, Rohingya Genocide Accountability and Protection Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on July 11, 2024

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2029	2024-2034
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	1,104	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
		<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
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

H.R. 8936 would authorize appropriations for several Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) programs to assist Rohingya communities in Burma and in surrounding countries. It also would require the department and USAID to report to the Congress on their implementation of the bill and on related matters. In total, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 8936 would cost \$1.1 billion over the 2024-2029 period. Such spending would be subject to appropriation of the specified and estimated amounts.

**Ongoing Assistance.** The bill would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary over the 2025-2030 period to continue providing humanitarian and other assistance to the Rohingya. Over the past seven years, the federal government has provided about \$2.4 billion—or \$343 million, on average, in each year for such assistance. After adjusting that average annual amount for inflation, CBO estimates that implementing that provision would require appropriations averaging \$365 million each year and would cost \$1 billion over the 2024-2029 period. That estimate—based on previous funding for similar activities—is subject to some uncertainty. It is difficult to anticipate the future needs of the Rohingya population and how the federal government might meet those needs. As a result, the costs of continuing assistance under the bill could be significantly greater than or less than estimated.

See also

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



The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 150 (international affairs).

<b>Table 1. Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 8936</b>							
	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2024-2029
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
Ongoing Assistance							
Estimated Authorization	0	350	357	364	371	379	1,821
Estimated Outlays	0	44	141	231	292	329	1,037
Criminal Investigations							
Authorization	0	18	18	18	18	18	90
Estimated Outlays	0	2	7	12	15	16	52
Scholarships							
Estimated Authorization	0	3	3	3	3	3	15
Estimated Outlays	0	3	3	3	3	3	15
Total Changes							
Estimated Authorization	0	371	378	385	392	400	1,926
Estimated Outlays	0	49	151	246	310	348	1,104

**Criminal Investigations.** H.R. 8936 also would authorize the appropriation of \$18 million each year over the 2025-2029 period to investigate, document, and preserve evidence of genocide and crimes against humanity in Burma. CBO estimates that implementing that provision would cost \$52 million over the 2024-2029 period.

**Scholarships.** The bill would authorize the Department of State to provide at least 50 scholarships each year over the 2025-2030 period for members of the Rohingya diaspora to study in the United States. On the basis of information from the department, CBO estimates that providing scholarships of approximately \$60,000 each to 50 students each year would cost \$3 million annually and total \$15 million over the 2024-2029 period.

Lastly, the bill would authorize the Department of State to designate an official to coordinate federal policies and programs that support the Rohingya people. It also would require the department and USAID to report to the Congress on the implementation of the bill and on related matters. On the basis of information about spending for similar positions and reports, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2024-2029 period.



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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phillip L. Swagel".

Phillip L. Swagel  
Director, Congressional Budget Office