

H.R. 8232, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to withdraw from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East Federal funds previously made available to such organization

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	0	0
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

H.R. 8232 would require the Department of State to withdraw or recover any unexpended federal funds that were made available to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). UNRWA is an international agency that provides humanitarian and other assistance to Palestinians in the Middle East.

Over the 2021-2023 period, U.S. funding for UNRWA averaged \$350 million a year. The Administration provided \$122 million to UNRWA in fiscal year 2024 before it suspended financial support in January; CBO anticipates that the federal government would not recover any of those funds. The Administration indicated that other amounts that have not been disbursed, including \$3 million that was suspended, will be used for other purposes. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would not affect the federal budget.

On February 28, 2024, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 7122, the Stop Support for United Nations Relief and Works Agency Act of 2024, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on February 6, 2024. That bill would prohibit federal contributions to UNRWA and allow such contributions to be redirected to other entities,

subject to certain certifications; CBO's estimate of that bill reflected the cost of those certifications.

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

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