

**S. 4216, North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act of 2022**

As reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on July 21, 2022

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2027	2022-2032
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	*	*
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	45	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
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?	Yes, Under Threshold
* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

## Bill Summary

S. 4216 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million each year over the 2023-2027 period for ongoing programs managed by the Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the U.S. Agency for Global Media to improve access to information in North Korea, promote democracy and human rights in that country, and provide humanitarian assistance to North Korean refugees. The bill also would authorize the Administration to sanction individuals who force North Korean refugees to return to North Korea. Lastly, S. 4216 would require reports to the Congress on the implementation of the bill and related matters.

## Estimated Federal Cost

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 4216 will be enacted late in fiscal year 2022 and that costs would be incurred in 2023 and later years. Outlays for existing programs were estimated using historical spend-out rates.

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

**Table 1.  
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 4216**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2022-2027
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Specified Authorizations for Ongoing Programs							
Authorization	0	10	10	10	10	10	50
Estimated Outlays	0	6	9	9	10	10	44
Other Provisions							
Estimated Authorization	0	*	*	*	*	*	1
Estimated Outlays	0	*	*	*	*	*	1
Total Changes							
Estimated Authorization	0	10	10	10	10	10	51
Estimated Outlays	0	6	9	9	10	10	45

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding; \* = between zero and \$500,000.

In addition to the budgetary effects shown above, S. 4216 would have insignificant effects on direct spending and revenues over the 2022-2032 period.

### Spending Subject to Appropriation

Most of the bill’s costs would stem from specified authorizations for ongoing programs totaling \$50 million over the 2023-2027 period. CBO estimates that appropriation of those amounts would result in outlays of \$44 million over the same period.

The annual authorizations comprise:

- \$5 million to provide humanitarian assistance to North Korean refugees,
- \$3 million to increase the availability of information inside North Korea, and
- \$2 million to promote human rights and democracy in North Korea.

Other provisions in S. 4216, including several reporting requirements, would increase the department’s administrative costs. On the basis of information about the costs of similar reports and efforts, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost less than \$500,000 annually and \$1 million in total over the 2022-2027 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

### Direct Spending and Revenues

The Administration has broad authority to sanction individuals for human rights abuses in North Korea. If enactment of the bill leads the Administration to broaden those sanctions by targeting individuals who forcibly repatriate North Korean refugees, more people would be denied visas by the Department of State, resulting in an insignificant decrease in revenues from fees. Although most visa fees are retained by the Department of State and spent without

further appropriation, some collections are deposited into the Treasury as revenues. Denying foreign nationals entry into the United States also would reduce direct spending on federal benefits (emergency Medicaid or federal subsidies for health insurance, for example) for which those people might otherwise be eligible.

Sanctions under the bill also would increase the number of people who are subject to civil or criminal monetary penalties. Those penalties are recorded as revenues, and a portion can be spent without further appropriation. In addition, the bill would block transactions in certain assets and property that are in the United States or that come under the control of people in the United States.

On the basis of data for similar sanctions, CBO estimates that any additional sanctions would affect a small number of people; thus, enacting S. 4216 would have insignificant effects on revenues and direct spending, and would, on net, reduce deficits by insignificant amounts over the 2022-2032 period.

## **Mandates**

S. 4216 would impose a private-sector mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by expanding existing authority for the President to impose sanctions to include individuals who forcibly repatriate North Korean refugees. It would prohibit individuals or entities in the United States from engaging in transactions involving assets and property that have been frozen by sanctions authorized in the bill. Those transactions are otherwise permitted under current law. The cost of the mandate would be any income lost as a consequence. CBO expects that because a small number of people or entities would be affected, the loss of income from any incremental increase in restrictions imposed by the bill would be small as well. CBO estimates that the cost of the mandate would fall well below the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$184 million in 2022, adjusted annually for inflation).

S. 4216 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA.



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