



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 12, 2016

**H.R. 5047
Protecting Veterans' Educational Choice Act of 2016**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
on September 21, 2016*

H.R. 5047 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to include information on articulation agreements when it provides educational and vocational counseling to veterans. Articulation agreements are arrangements between institutions of higher learning regarding how those institutions will grant academic credit for course work pursued at other such institutions. CBO expects that if the bill were enacted, VA would provide veterans with the required information as part of its regular counseling services.

CBO estimates that the cost of collecting the necessary information from educational institutions would be less than \$500,000 over the 2017-2021 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5047 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

H.R. 5047 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is David Newman. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.