

TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A MANATEE  
SEMIPOSTAL STAMP

DECEMBER 10, 2024.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. WESTERMAN, from the Committee on Natural Resources,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 3119]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 3119) to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of H.R. 3119 is to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The United States Postal Service (USPS) often sells stamps to recognize important holidays and events, leaders throughout the United States' history, and other individuals and activities that are important to the American way of life. H.R. 3119 would build on that tradition by authorizing the USPS to offer a "Manatee Semipostal Stamp" to pay tribute to the manatee. Under this legislation, the funds generated through sales of this stamp would be transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to protect this species and its habitat.

This legislation builds on recent similar initiatives from the USPS and the USFWS. In 2011, the USFWS unveiled the Save Vanishing Species Stamp (also known as the Tiger Stamp) to help support animal conservation efforts. The revenues generated from the sale of this stamp have helped fund roughly \$7.5 million in conservation projects worldwide.

## COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 3119 was introduced on May 5, 2023, by Rep. Darren Soto (D–FL). The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries. The bill was also referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability. On February 14, 2024, the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on the bill. On June 12, 2024, the Committee on Natural Resources met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3119 by unanimous consent. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

## HEARINGS

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the following hearing was used to develop or consider this measure: hearing by the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held on February 14, 2024.

## SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

*Section 1. Manatee Semipostal Stamp*

Directs the USPS to issue a “Manatee Semipostal Stamp” to be available for sale for two years within one year of enactment of this legislation. The proceeds generated from the sale of this stamp are to be transferred to the USFWS to conserve manatees and their habitat.

## COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources’ oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

## COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

<b>H.R. 3119, a bill to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp</b>			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 12, 2024			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2029	2024-2034
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	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?	Yes
		<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
* = between -\$500,000 and zero.			

H.R. 3119 would direct the Postal Service (USPS) to issue and sell the Manatee Semipostal Stamp and transfer the proceeds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the conservation of manatees and the species' habitat in the United States.

Semipostal stamps cost 85 cents each; amounts that USPS collects above regular first-class postage (currently 73 cents) would be treated as offsetting collections of the Postal Service and transferred to the USFWS.

Based on past sales of similar stamps, CBO estimates that collections under the bill would total less than \$1 million annually. CBO expects those amounts to be transferred soon after receipt, resulting in no net change in spending by USPS. (The cost to issue and sell the stamps would be offset by the proceeds from those sales.) Postal Service collections and spending, including the transfer to USFWS, are classified as off-budget.

The amounts that USFWS receives would be recorded as on-budget offsetting receipts, that is, as reductions in direct spending, and would be available for the agency to spend without further appropriation. CBO expects those funds would be spent soon after receipt; thus, the net effect on direct spending would be negligible over the 2024–2034 period.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lilia Ledezma. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

MARK P. HADLEY

(For Phillip L. Swagel, Director, Congressional Budget Office).

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp.

#### EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e),

9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

According to the Congressional Budget Office, H.R. 3119 contains no unfunded mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

*Directed Rule Making.* This bill does not contain any directed rule makings.

*Duplication of Existing Programs.* This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program. Such program was not included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111-139 or identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95-220, as amended by Public Law 98-169) as relating to other programs.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

As ordered reported by the Committee on Natural Resources, H.R. 3119 would make no changes in existing law.