



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 21, 2005

### **H.R. 748**

### **Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on April 13, 2005*

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 748 would not result in any significant cost to the federal government. Enacting H.R. 748 could affect direct spending and revenues; however, CBO estimates that any such impact would not be significant. H.R. 748 contains both an intergovernmental and a private-sector mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by requiring doctors, in certain cases, to provide parental notification before performing an abortion on a minor. CBO estimates the costs for public and private doctors to comply with those mandates would be minimal and well below the annual thresholds established in UMRA (\$62 million for intergovernmental mandates and \$123 million for private-sector mandates in 2005, adjusted for inflation).

H.R. 748 would make it a federal crime to transport a minor across state lines, under certain circumstances, to obtain an abortion without parental notification; in addition, the bill would make it a crime for a physician to perform such an abortion. Violators would be subject to imprisonment and fines. As a result, the federal government would be able to pursue cases that it otherwise would not be able to prosecute. CBO expects that any increase in federal costs for law enforcement, court proceedings, or prison operations would not be significant, however, because of the small number of cases likely to be involved. Any such additional costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 748 could be subject to criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines if the bill is enacted. Collections of such fines are recorded in the budget as revenues, which are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and later spent. CBO expects that any additional revenues and direct spending would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.