



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

May 16, 2016

**H.R. 3694
Strategy to Oppose Predatory Organ Trafficking Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs
on April 20, 2016*

SUMMARY

H.R. 3694 would amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) to include the trafficking of persons for the removal of their organs in that act's definition of victims of trafficking. It also would require the Department of State to report to the Congress on such trafficking. On the basis of information from the department, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have discretionary costs of \$7 million over the 2017-2021 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Pay-as-you-go procedures apply because H.R. 3694 would affect direct spending and revenues; however, CBO estimates that those effects would not be significant.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3694 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

H.R. 3694 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 3694 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall primarily within budget function 150 (international affairs).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2017-2021
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	1	2	2	2	2	8
Estimated Outlays	1	1	2	2	2	7

Note: Components do not sum to totals because of rounding.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 3694 will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2017 and that outlays will follow historical patterns for similar and existing programs.

Spending Subject to Appropriation

By expanding the definition of severe forms of trafficking as defined in the TVPA to include the trafficking of persons for the removal of their organs, section 6 also would expand the definitions of a victim of trafficking and a victim of severe forms of trafficking. The TVPA authorizes the Departments of Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Justice, Labor, and State, and related agencies to implement several programs to reduce trafficking in persons and assist victims of trafficking, and authorizes specific appropriations for those programs through 2017. On the basis of information from the Department of State (the agency that coordinates implementation of the TVPA) and the level of funding authorized for 2017, CBO estimates that broadening the scope of those anti-trafficking and assistance programs would cost about \$1 million each year starting in 2018 for a total cost of \$3 million over the 2017-2021 period.

Section 7 would require the Department of State to submit an annual report to the Congress detailing the practice of trafficking persons to remove their organs and efforts by the department and foreign countries to prevent such trafficking. On the basis of information from the department, CBO estimates it would require the equivalent of 4 additional employees at an average cost of \$200,000 each year to train employees and provide updated guidance on organ trafficking, engage with other countries and multilateral institutions, gather information, and produce the report. In total, CBO estimates that implementing the reporting requirements would cost \$4 million over the 2017-2021 period.

Direct Spending and Revenues

Section 5 would authorize the Secretary of State to deny a passport to any U.S. citizen who has been convicted of unlawfully procuring, transferring, or receiving an organ for transplant, or to revoke their passport if one had already been issued. In certain cases, citizens who have had a passport revoked may be issued a new, short-term passport to repatriate that person to the United States. In those instances, the citizen would still be required to pay the fees for a new passport. Some passport fees are recorded as revenues while others are retained by the department and spent. CBO estimates the effects on direct spending and revenues under the bill would be less than \$500,000 over the 2017-2026 period because few people would be affected.

Section 6 of the bill would make victims of organ trafficking eligible to receive nonimmigrant status (sometimes called a T visa) as trafficking victims, if they meet other qualifications for such status. Individuals with T nonimmigrant status can receive some federally funded benefits, sponsor certain relatives for visas, and eventually apply to adjust their status to that of lawful permanent resident. CBO expects few people would gain eligibility for T nonimmigrant status because few prosecutions for organ trafficking have occurred in the United States. Therefore, CBO estimates that direct spending for federal benefits would increase by less than \$500,000 over the 2017-2026 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. Pay-as-you-go procedures apply to H.R. 3694 because it would affect direct spending and revenues; however, CBO estimates that few people would be affected and those effects would be less than \$500,000 over the 2017-2026 period.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3694 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 3694 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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