

**H.R. 3798, Equal Access to Contraception for Veterans Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on March 12, 2020

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	5	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2031?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) charges copayments to veterans who receive contraceptive items from the Veterans Health Administration. H.R. 3798 would eliminate those copayments. Collections of copayments for contraceptive items, which totaled \$420,000 in 2018, are deposited in the Medical Care Collections Fund and, subject to appropriation, are spent on medical care for veterans. CBO expects that any reduction in those collections would need to be replaced with additional funding in order to provide the same level of health care to veterans.

Using historical information on copayments from VA and adjusting for an increase in the cost of VA-funded health care that veterans will receive from nonfederal providers, CBO estimates collections over the 2020-2025 period would be reduced by \$5 million. Replacing those amounts and continuing to provide the same level of health care to veterans would cost \$5 million over the 2020-2025 period, CBO estimates; that spending would be subject to the availability of appropriations.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Ann E. Futrell. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.