

**H.R. 6918, Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act**  
As reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means on January 16, 2024

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2028	2024-2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	*	*	*
Revenues	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	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 2034?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

H.R. 6918 would prohibit the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed change in regulations—or any substantially similar regulatory action—against expenditures for pregnancy centers that support protecting the life of the mother and the unborn child and offer resources and services to mothers, fathers, and families.

HHS published a notice of proposed rulemaking in the *Federal Register* in October 2023 announcing that it intends to clarify existing regulations by adding that it may require states to show that they have used Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program funds for a purpose that a “reasonable person” would consider to be within one of the statutory purposes of the program.<sup>1</sup> Under current law and regulation, states may use those funds for expenditures that are reasonably calculated to accomplish such purposes. HHS further stated that programs that only or primarily provide pregnancy counseling to women after they become pregnant probably do not meet that standard.

1. See Department of Health and Human Services, “Strengthening Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) as a Safety Net and Work Program,” Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 88 *Fed. Reg.* 67697 (October 2, 2023), <http://tinyurl.com/48u6ms96>.



CBO expects that under the proposed rule, state spending patterns would not change in a significant way; funding that would have been directed to pregnancy centers under current practice would be used for other purposes. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would have no significant effect on direct spending over the 2024-2033 period.

CBO also estimates that implementing the bill would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2024-2028 period. That spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phillip L. Swagel', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Phillip L. Swagel  
Director, Congressional Budget Office