

H.R. 958, Protecting Moms Who Served Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on May 4, 2021

| By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars | 2021 | 2021-2026 | 2021-2031 |
|--|------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Direct Spending (Outlays) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revenues | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays) | 0 | 16 | not estimated |
| Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? | No | Mandate Effects | |
| Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2032? | No | Contains intergovernmental mandate? | No |
| | | Contains private-sector mandate? | No |

H.R. 958 would direct the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide coordinators to support veterans through every stage of their pregnancies. The bill also would require VA to deliver training on the unique needs of pregnant and postpartum veterans to maternity-care professionals in medical facilities that are not operated by the department.

Currently, VA provides coordinators through its Maternity Care Coordination Program, and it also trains maternity-care workers in nondepartmental facilities through the Women's Health Education team.

H.R. 958 would authorize the appropriation of \$15 million for 2022 for those purposes. CBO estimates that those activities included in the bill would cost \$15 million over the 2021-2026 period. Assuming appropriation of the specified amount, CBO estimates that VA spending would increase by that amount.

H.R. 958 also would require the Government Accountability Office to report to the Congress on maternal mortality and morbidity among pregnant and postpartum veterans. Using information on similar reports, CBO estimates that satisfying the reporting requirement would cost \$1 million.

In total, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 958 would cost \$16 million over the 2021-2026 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.



The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 700 (veterans' benefits and services).

Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 958

| | By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars | | | | | | 2021-2026 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | |
| Coordination Program | | | | | | | |
| Estimated Authorization | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Estimated Outlays | 0 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Report | | | | | | | |
| Estimated Authorization | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Estimated Outlays | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Total Changes | | | | | | | |
| Estimated Authorization | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Estimated Outlays | 0 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 16 |

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