

**Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB838

Patron: McClure

Bill Title: Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; doula care.

Bill Summary: Adds provisions related to the provision of doula care under the state plan for medical assistance services specifying that such care includes support during labor and delivery and up to two linkage-to-care incentive payments for doulas.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: -

Explanation: This bill would add provisions to the Code of Virginia that are included in current Appropriation Act language. Language in the introduced budget related to doula care has been removed to avoid conflict with Code requirements.

Fiscal Summary: Minimal fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: The proposed legislation aligns doula care provisions in the Code of Virginia with language included in Chapter 725, 2025 Virginia Acts of Assembly. The bill clarifies that doula care can occur during both pregnancy and the postpartum period. In addition, Appropriation Act allowances for labor and delivery support and linkage-to-care incentive payments is added to the Code. The Department of Medical Assistance Services estimates that any fiscal impact would be minimal, less than \$20,000 (\$5,000 general fund).

Other: -