

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5330

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program regarding treating pregnancy as a qualifying event for enrollment in TRICARE Select.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 14, 2024

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KING, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program regarding treating pregnancy as a qualifying event for enrollment in TRICARE Select.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Access to
5 Prenatal Care for Military Families Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM TO TREAT PREGNANCY AS A**
2 **QUALIFYING EVENT FOR ENROLLMENT IN**
3 **TRICARE SELECT.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
6 Defense shall commence a five-year pilot program under
7 which the Secretary shall treat pregnancy as a qualifying
8 event under section 1099(b)(1)(B) of title 10, United
9 States Code, for enrollment in TRICARE Select by an eli-
10 gible beneficiary.

11 (b) INITIAL BRIEFING.—Not later than one year
12 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
13 shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees
14 a briefing on the status of the pilot program under sub-
15 section (a).

16 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
18 after the Secretary commences the pilot program
19 under subsection (a), and annually thereafter for the
20 next four years, the Secretary shall submit to the
21 appropriate congressional committees a report on
22 the pilot program.

23 (2) ELEMENTS.—Each report under paragraph
24 (1) shall include the number of covered enrollment
25 changes during the period covered by the report,
26 disaggregated by—

1 (A) month, beginning with January 2026;
2 and

3 (B) whether the eligible beneficiary made
4 such covered enrollment change—

5 (i) because the eligible beneficiary is a
6 member of the uniformed services who sep-
7 arated from active duty;

8 (ii) because the eligible beneficiary is
9 a member of the uniformed services who
10 returned to active duty;

11 (iii) because the eligible beneficiary is
12 a dependent of a member of the uniformed
13 services who separated from active duty;

14 (iv) because the eligible beneficiary is
15 a dependent of a member of the uniformed
16 services who returned to active duty; or

17 (v) based on the treatment, under the
18 pilot program under subsection (a), of
19 pregnancy as a qualifying event for enroll-
20 ment in TRICARE Select.

21 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) ACTIVE DUTY.—The term “active duty” has
23 the meaning given that term in section 101(d) of
24 title 10, United States Code.

1 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Armed Services of
5 the Senate; and

6 (B) the Committee on Armed Services, the
7 Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-
8 ture, and the Committee on Energy and Com-
9 merce of the House of Representatives.

10 (3) COVERED ENROLLMENT CHANGE.—The
11 term “covered enrollment change” means a change
12 to a previous election by an eligible beneficiary
13 under subsection (b)(1) of section 1099 of title 10,
14 United States Code, to enroll in a health care plan
15 designated under subsection (c) of such section.

16 (4) DEPENDENT; TRICARE PROGRAM; TRICARE
17 SELECT.—The terms “dependent”, “TRICARE pro-
18 gram”, and “TRICARE Select” have the meanings
19 given those terms in section 1072 of title 10, United
20 States Code.

21 (5) ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARY.—The term “eligi-
22 ble beneficiary” means an individual who is eligible
23 to enroll in TRICARE Select under section 1075(b)
24 of title 10, United States Code.

1 (6) UNIFORMED SERVICES.—The term “uni-
2 formed services” has the meaning given that term in
3 section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.

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