



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2137

PRINTER'S NO. 3230

PRIME SPONSOR: **Mayes**

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY:

House Bill 2137, Printer's Number 3230 amends Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to establish the Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Program within the Department of Health.

ANALYSIS:

This legislation establishes the Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Program to reduce maternal and infant mortality, improve maternal and infant health outcomes, and improve postpartum health outcomes by distributing a maternal and newborn supply kit to the parents and guardians of infants.

Duties imposed on the Department of Health:

Program Implementation:

- The Department of Health shall implement the Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Program, which includes providing educational information, postpartum care kits, and newborn care kits to the parents and guardians of infants in Pennsylvania.

Program Awareness:

- Make information about the kits available to patients at the time of delivery to assist in applying for the program.
- Make efforts to inform recipients of medical assistance and the Special Supplemental Food Service Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program about the maternal and newborn supply kits.

Third-Party Contracts:

- Select and contract with third parties to administer the program.
- Publish names, contact information, and application processes for each third-party contractor selected to distribute kits on the department's publicly accessible Internet website.
- Receive information about the monetary and in-kind donations received by third-party contractors and include it in its report.

Educational Materials:

- Create informational materials on the proper use of postpartum care and infant products, along with generally accepted practices to reduce maternal and infant mortality; and post this material on the department's publicly accessible Internet website.

Regulations:

- Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this legislation.

Report:

- Collect data from third-party contractors.
- Monitor quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of the program.
- Issue a report with findings and recommendations to the General Assembly within one year of the effective date of the legislation and annually thereafter.

Maternal and Newborn supply kits:

- Newborn care kit is available to the parent or guardian of a newborn baby for up to 12 months after the delivery of the baby. This kit includes thermometer, nasal aspirator, diaper rash cream or zinc oxide ointment, receiving blankets, footed onesie pajamas, onesies, socks, diapers, wipes, burp cloth, baby nail clippers, unscented 2-in-1 shampoo/baby wash, unscented lotion, pacifiers, petroleum jelly, and educational information on infant care and best infant care practices as determined by the department.
- Postpartum care kit is available to the parent of a newborn for up to six weeks after the delivery of the baby. This kit includes postpartum maternity pads, perineal ice packs, witch hazel pads, medicated hemorrhoid wipes, perineal wash, peri bottle, nipple cream, nursing pads, educational information on postpartum care as determined by the department.

Funding:

- The department shall operate the program only to the extent that funds are appropriated for it. Distribution of the kits will continue until all appropriated funds are exhausted.
- Third-party contractors selected to administer the program shall establish mechanisms for accepting monetary and in-kind donations and will report them to the department for inclusion in its report.

This act shall take effect in 180 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Based on the effective date of this legislation, there would be no fiscal impact for 2023/24.

The Department of Health anticipates the cost of each post-partum kit to be approximately \$75 and each newborn kit to be approximately \$195. Maternal and newborn supply kits shall be distributed until all funding appropriated for the program has been exhausted. The fiscal impact on commonwealth funds is limited by the amount appropriated for the program.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: June 5, 2024

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.