

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7070

AN ACT CONCERNING DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING PRACTICES OF LIMITED SERVICES PREGNANCY CENTERS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Attorney General	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Up to 10,000	Up to 10,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill prohibits deceptive advertising by pregnancy centers under certain conditions. It allows the Attorney General (AG) to apply to court for injunctive relief, if written notice is given to the center first and it did not cure the violation within ten days.¹ If the court finds that the center violated the deceptive advertising practices, the pregnancy center also must pay civil penalties of \$50 to \$500 per violation and reasonable attorney's fees.

This could result in a revenue gain to the extent violations of the bill's provisions occur; it is estimated that there are approximately 30 pregnancy centers that meet the bill's definitions. As such, the bill could result in a revenue gain up to \$10,000 annually.

¹ Injunctive relief is a court-ordered act or prohibition against an act or condition which has been requested, and sometimes granted, in a petition to the court for an injunction. Such an act is the use of judicial (court) authority to handle a problem and is not a judgment for money. Whether the relief will be granted is usually argued by both sides in a hearing rather than in a full-scale trial, although sometimes it is part of a lawsuit for damages and/or contract performance.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of violations that occur.