

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 2214H.02C  
Bill No.: HCS for HB 948  
Subject: Veterans; Mental Health; Department of Mental Health; Health Care  
Type: Original  
Date: May 7, 2025

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Bill Summary: This proposal creates the "Veterans Well-Being and Resource Outreach Act".

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
General Revenue	(\$161,806)	(\$125,972)	(\$127,877)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$161,806)</b>	<b>(\$125,972)</b>	<b>(\$127,877)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
General Revenue	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

☐ Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### **ASSUMPTION**

#### **§42.024 - Veterans Well-Being and Resource Outreach Act**

Officials from the **Department of Mental Health (DMH)** state that the proposed legislation establishes the “Veterans Well-Being and Resource Outreach Act.” Section 42.024 The Department of Mental Health (DMH) shall develop and implement an initiative to encourage local veterans' organizations and veterans' support organizations to establish programs that provide wellness checks for at-risk veterans described in this section. This bill requires local veteran’s organizations who “elect” to provide wellness checks to do so twice a month and have checks conducted by a veteran or a trained person. DMH is required to promulgate rules for this section.

DMH would require one new Senior Program Specialist to develop and implement the initiative, develop training, promote participation, and monitor program results. This position would work directly with local veterans’ organizations to encourage establishment of such programs, which could involve traveling across the state for marketing the program and to promote participation. DMH cost for the senior program specialist would be \$63,000 for the first year. The cost of travel expenses for marketing and promotion would be \$5,000 per year, and the marketing and resource materials are estimated at \$10,000 per year. It is unclear if DMH would be required to provide training in this initiative. If DMH is responsible for training the veteran organizations to conduct these wellness checks this would require participants to attend Mental Health First Aid classes, estimated cost for 20 classes would be \$50,000. Depending on participation that could be an on-going expense. The estimated general revenue cost for FY26 would be \$161,806, for FY27 \$125,973 and FY28 \$127,876.

**\*\*Training costs were only added to year one.**

Upon further inquiry with the DMH, each Mental Health First Aid training class can hold no more than 30 attendees per session and the certification is good for 3 years.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will show the estimated impact by the DMH in the fiscal note.

**Oversight** notes that the \$50,000 cost for the Mental Health First Aid Training in year one for 20 classes provided by the DMH could train up to 600 individual or veteran volunteers to provide the twice monthly wellness checks to at-risk veterans. Oversight assumes that if the DMH has the need to conduct Mental Health First Aid classes past FY 2027, at a cost of \$2,500 per class (\$50,000/20), the MDA can request funding through the appropriation process.

In response to the previous version, officials from the **Office of Attorney General (AGO)** assumed any potential litigation costs arising from this proposal can be absorbed with existing

resources. The AGO may seek additional appropriations if the proposal results in a significant increase in litigation or investigation costs.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight assumes the AGO will be able to perform any additional duties required by this proposal with current staff and resources and will reflect no fiscal impact to the AGO for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **Department of Commerce and Insurance**, the **Department of Public Safety (Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Missouri Veterans Commission)**, the **Missouri National Guard**, the **Office of the State Treasurer**, the **Office of Administration** and the **Missouri Office of Prosecution Services** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

In response to the previous version, officials from the **Office of Administration - Office of Administration - Budget and Planning** and the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** each assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

**Oversight** only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other local hospitals were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

#### Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assume this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND (0101)</b>			
<u>Cost – DMH §42.024</u>			
Personal Service	(\$52,500)	(\$64,260)	(\$65,545)
Fringe Benefits	(\$34,202)	(\$41,547)	(\$42,063)
Equipment and Expense	(\$10,104)	(\$5,165)	(\$5,269)
<b>Total Cost – DMH</b>	<b>(\$96,806)</b>	<b>(\$110,972)</b>	<b>(\$112,877)</b>
FTE Change – DMH	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<u>Cost – DMH §42.024 – Mental Health First Aid classes</u>			
	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$0
<u>Cost – DMH §42.024 Marketing &amp; Travel</u>			
	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b><u>(\$161,806)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$125,972)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$127,877)</u></b>
Estimated Net FTE Change to the General Revenue Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

#### FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

#### FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes the "Veterans Well-Being and Resource Outreach Act".

The bill requires the Department of Mental Health to encourage local veterans' organizations and veterans' support organizations to establish a program that provides wellness checks for at-risk veterans as provided in the bill.

The wellness checks will be twice each month and conducted by a veteran or a person who has received training on medical, mental health, housing, and vocational needs of veterans. The wellness checks can be either in person, by telephone, or by electronic means.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Commerce and Insurance  
Attorney General's Office  
Office of Administration  
Office of Administration - Budget and Planning  
Department of Commerce and Insurance  
Department of Mental Health  
Department of Public Safety –  
    Missouri State Highway Patrol  
    Missouri Veterans Commission  
    Missouri National Guard  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Office of the State Treasurer  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Missouri Office of Prosecution Services



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