

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 5226H.02C
 Bill No.: HCS for HB 1869
 Subject: Veterans; Cemeteries
 Type: Original
 Date: April 1, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal establishes a grant program to provide funds to repair and reset grave markers for deceased veterans.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue*	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)

*Oversight assumes the net effect is from the funding of the Veterans' Grave Marker Trust Fund (subject to appropriations) and could exceed the \$250,000 threshold.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Fund (1304)*	(\$85,881)	(\$94,999)	(\$96,573)
Veterans' Grave Marker Trust Fund**	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	(\$85,881)	(\$94,999)	(\$96,573)

*Oversight assumes the net effect is from the one (1) FTE accountant requested by the Missouri Veterans Commission for newly created grant administration.

**Oversight assumes revenue and expenses net to \$0.

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

- 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 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§42.303 – Grants to Repair and Reset Grave Markers for Deceased Veterans

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety - Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC)** state that should this bill be passed and the grant program created by it is funded by the Legislature, MVC would not be able to process the applications for a grant under the program with existing staff. Therefore, the MVC estimates that the department would need to add one (1) accountant FTE (\$55,000 annually) along with associated expenses to the department's existing staff to ensure all grant eligibility requirements have been met and that adequate funds exist to pay for approved grants.

Oversight has no information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will present the fiscal impact of this proposal of 1 FTE as provided by the MVC to the Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Fund (1304).

Oversight assumes that the grants to repair or reset grave markers for deceased veterans at cemeteries located in this state that have been damaged by natural causes are paid for through the newly created Veterans' Grave Marker Trust Fund authorized by §42.303.9(1). Funding for this grant program will consist of any appropriation, gifts, bequests and donations.

Oversight notes that the amount of the grant shall equal the actual cost expended to repair or reset the grave marker but shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars and will be awarded on a first come first serve basis.

Officials from the **Office of the State Treasurer** assumed that the proposal would 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 this agency.

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.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** noted 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 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Transfer Out – (\$42.303)</u> Appropriations to the Veterans Grave Marker Trust Fund p.3	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE GENERAL REVENUE	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>
VETERANS COMMISSION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (1304)			
<u>Cost – MVC (\$40.303) p.3</u>			
Personnel Service	(\$45,833)	(\$56,100)	(\$57,222)
Fringe Benefits	(\$32,048)	(\$38,899)	(\$39,351)
Expense & Equipment	(\$8,000)	\$0	\$0
<u>Total Costs – MVC</u>	<u>(\$85,881)</u>	<u>(\$94,999)</u>	<u>(\$96,573)</u>
FTE Change - MVC	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON VETERANS COMMISSION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (1304)	<u>(\$85,881)</u>	<u>(\$94,999)</u>	<u>(\$96,573)</u>
Estimated Net FTE Change to the Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
VETERANS' GRAVE MARKER TRUST FUND			
<u>Transfer In</u> – (§42.303) Appropriations from General Revenue p.3	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown
<u>Revenue Gain</u> - (§42.303) Gifts, bequests and donations p.3	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown
<u>Cost</u> – MVC (§42.303) Grants to repair and reset grave makers for deceased veterans p.3	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE VETERANS' GRAVE MARKER TRUST FUND	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

There could be a positive fiscal impact on small businesses that specialize in repairing, resetting, or replacing grave markers as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill creates the "Veterans' Grave Marker Trust Fund" for the purpose of repairing or resetting grave markers for deceased veterans at cemeteries located in this State that have been damaged by natural causes.

The Commission must establish a grant program to provide reimbursement for the repairing or resetting of certain grave markers of deceased veterans. The Commission will award a grant for reimbursement if the deceased veteran:

- (1) Has served at least 180 days as an active-duty member of the U.S. military service or died while on official military duty status as an active-duty member;

(2) Was discharged under honorable conditions and was never convicted of a State or Federal criminal offense or any capital criminal offense;

(3) Did not die under circumstances that would bring discredit upon the military services or the State; and

(4) Is buried or interred in a privately owned cemetery or burial plot within this State.

The bill requires the Commission to establish and post on its website the contents of the grant application, and the procedures and timelines by which property owners may apply for grants.

The Veterans' Commission will award grants on a first-come, first-served basis. The amount of the grant to be awarded will be equal the actual cost expended to repair or reset the grave marker but cannot exceed \$2,500.

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 Public Safety-Missouri Veterans Commission
Office of the Secretary of State
Office of the State Treasurer
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules



Julie Morff
Director
April 1, 2026



Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
April 1, 2026