

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 6795H.01I
Bill No.: HB 3029
Subject: Veterans; Merchandising Practices
Type: Original
Date: March 13, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal creates provisions relating to compensation for assisting with veterans' benefits matters.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$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
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

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

§42.028 – Compensation for Assisting with Veterans’ Benefits

Officials from the **Office of the State Public Defender** Per the National Public Defense Workload Study, the new charge contemplated by this change to §42.028 would take approximately twenty-two hours of SPD work for reasonably effective representation. If one hundred cases were filed under this section in a fiscal year, representation would result in a need for an additional attorney. Because the number of cases that will be filed under this statute is unknown, the exact additional number of attorneys necessary is unknown. Each case would also result in unknown increased costs in the need for core staff, travel and litigation expenses. However, if the charge was classified as a class D misdemeanor no jail time would be authorized and the cases would not qualify for SPD representation.

Oversight assumes this proposal will create a minimal number of new cases and that the SPD can absorb the additional caseload required by this proposal with current staff and resources. Therefore, Oversight will reflect no fiscal impact to the SPD for fiscal note purposes. However, if multiple bills pass which require additional staffing and duties, the SPD may request funding through the appropriation process.

In response to similar legislation, SB 1107 (2026), officials from the **Missouri Office of Prosecution Services (MOPS)** assumed the proposal will have no measurable fiscal impact on MOPS. The enactment of a new crime (§42.028.11) creates additional responsibilities for county prosecutors and the circuit attorney which may, in turn, result in additional costs, which are difficult to determine.

Oversight notes this act provides that no person shall receive compensation for advising or assisting, or referring to another person for such purposes, any individual with regard to any veteran’s benefits matter, as described in the act, unless such individual provides a written agreement containing the terms of the fees, provides certain disclosures, and complies with requirements under federal law. Additionally, no person shall advertise for such services without including a disclosure as specified in the act. Furthermore, no person shall receive compensation for any services rendered before the date on which a notice of disagreement is filed with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and no person shall guarantee the receipt of specific veteran benefits. Any person who violates this act shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. Oversight assumes this will have a minimal fiscal impact and will not present an impact for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **Department of Commerce and Insurance, Department of Corrections, Department of Public Safety - Missouri Veterans Commission** and **Missouri National Guard** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

In response to similar legislation, SB 1107 (2026), officials from the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** assumed that the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Oversight notes that the above-mentioned agencies have stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their organization. Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact on the fiscal note.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<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

This proposal may negatively impact certain small businesses that currently provide services to veterans for a fee.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no direct fiscal impact.

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

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Commerce and Insurance

Department of Corrections

Department of Public Safety – Missouri Veterans Commission

Missouri National Guard

Office of the State Public Defender

Office of the State Courts Administrator

Missouri Office of Prosecution Services



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