

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 5163-01  
Bill No.: HB 1301  
Subject: Military Affairs; Health Care Professionals; Emergencies; Health Dept.  
Type: Original  
Date: February 22, 2012

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Bill Summary: Changes the requirements for licensure as an emergency medical technician for honorably discharged veterans.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
General Revenue	(\$556,950)	(\$111,392)	(\$112,805)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>(\$556,950)</b>	<b>(\$111,392)</b>	<b>(\$112,805)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<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.  
This fiscal note contains 7 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>
General Revenue	2	2	2
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

- Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).
- Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

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

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR)** state the legislation is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact to JCAR beyond its current appropriation.

Officials from the **Office of Secretary of State (SOS)** state many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The Secretary of State's office 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 \$2,500. The SOS recognizes this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs.** However, it is also recognized 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 within 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.**

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)** provide the following information:

**Section 190.139.1** states in part:

*Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary and by no later than January 1, 2013, the department shall establish by rule a procedure to allow any member of the United States Armed Forces who is honorably discharged to obtain licensure as an emergency medical technician-basic (EMT-B), . . . regardless of whether they are certified with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) if they meet all other requirements of licensure under state law.*

It is interpreted from above that any honorably discharged veteran, regardless of whether they functioned in any sort of medical related capacity while in the military, must be issued the applicable license if they meet all state licensure requirements, other than certification through the NREMT.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

**Section 190.139.2(3)** states in part:

*(3) All honorably discharged veterans requesting an EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P license under this section shall meet all the necessary requirements of adequate education and skills to function at the level of licensure requested. Verification of such education and skills may be made through a testing process or by developing a memorandum of understanding with the appropriate authorities within the federal Department of Defense, . . . to allow military personnel to transition into the appropriate level of licensure in this state based on their qualifications, . . .*

While a memorandum of understanding could be pursued with the appropriate authorities for those already certified while in the military, a testing process would need to be developed for those veterans not trained and qualified during their military career as EMTs or similar specialties. Per the language in Sections 190.139.1. and 2.(1) of the proposed legislation, DRL cannot use the NREMT testing process that is used for all other EMT candidates.

The testing process would require the development of a total of nine (9) exams - three (3) license levels (EMT-B, EMT-I, and EMT-P) and three (3) sets of exams per level. It is estimated that each set of exams will cost \$50,000. Three sets are required to assure a proper rotation of exams. The \$50,000 cost per set is based on costs estimated by NREMT in their development of written exams. This cost reflects the cost of experts and test writers, which would be contract personnel.

Once the exams are developed, Bureau of Emergency Services (EMS) staff will manage the process of testing. Two additional FTE will be required to implement and maintain the testing process:

- An EMS Inspector I, at an annual salary of \$34,644, will review the exams when written and offer feedback to the test writers. This employee will also maintain the security of the exams and administer the exams to the candidates.
- A Senior Office Support Assistant (SOSA), at an annual salary of \$24,576, will provide support for the testing and will assist in the grading of the exams. This employee will also be responsible for distributing exam results to the applicant.

The program will also purchase a Scantron 4 at a cost of \$4,000 to aid in the grading of the exams. This machine accurately scores objective tests (multiple choice, matching, true/false, etc.) at a rate of 30 to 40 per minute.

There is currently a skills-based test that ambulance services conduct for EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P candidates on behalf of EMS. Passing this test would remain a requirement for certification.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

**Section 190.139.3** states in part:

*3. If the department identifies military certifications, qualifications, or training programs which are similar but are nominally deficient in the skills and education required to obtain an EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P license in this state, the department shall, within a reasonable time, establish a program to allow returning veterans to gain the skills and education not provided within their military training, but which are required for licensure in this state.*

This section would require a process through which military certifications, qualifications, and training programs are assessed for their compatibility with licensing requirements for EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P. Should any of the military certifications, qualifications, and training programs be deemed inadequate for licensure in Missouri, programs already exist that would provide the veteran with the opportunity to gain the appropriate skills and education to obtain licensure.

It is assumed that this section of the proposed legislation has no fiscal impact.

The DHSS estimates FY 13 costs to the General Revenue Fund of \$556,950, FY 14 costs of \$111,392; and FY 15 costs of \$112,805.

**Oversight** notes DHSS staff indicated 19 CSR 30-40.331 and 19 CSR 30-40.342 refer to the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), the provider of emergency medical technician (EMT) licensing exams in Missouri.

No officials from Ambulance Districts responded to **Oversight's** request for a statement of fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2013 (10 Mo.)	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<u>Costs - Department of Health and Senior Services (\$190,139.2(3))</u>			
Personal Service	(\$49,350)	(\$59,812)	(\$60,410)
Fringe Benefits	(\$26,126)	(\$31,664)	(\$31,981)
Equipment and Expense	(\$481,474)	(\$19,916)	(\$20,414)
Total <u>Cost</u> - Department of Health and Senior Services	<u>(\$556,950)</u>	<u>(\$111,392)</u>	<u>(\$112,805)</u>
FTE Change - DHSS	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b><u>(\$556,950)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$111,392)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$112,805)</u></b>
Estimated Net FTE Change for General Revenue Fund	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2013 (10 Mo.)	FY 2014	FY 2015
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This proposal requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish by rule, by January 1, 2013, a procedure to allow an honorably discharged member of the United States Armed Forces to obtain a license as an emergency medical technician for specified levels regardless of whether he or she is certified with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) if he or she meets all other current requirements for licensure under state law. The procedure must include rules which ensure that: (1) Honorable discharged veterans receive a lifetime exemption from any NREMT certification requirements and are able to renew their license without the certification; (2) These licensees are required to obtain similar continuing education credits as NREMT-certified licensees; (3) All honorably discharged

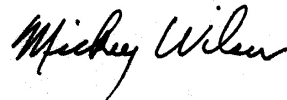
FISCAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

veterans requesting licensure must meet all the necessary education and skills requirements to function at the level of license requested. Verification of the education and skills may be made through a testing process or by developing a memorandum of understanding with the appropriate federal authority to allow military personnel to transition into the appropriate state level of licensure; (4) The department establishes, within a reasonable time, a program to allow a returning veteran, who may be nominally deficient in the education and skills, to gain the required skills and education not provided by the military in order to obtain a license; (5) The department establishes reasonable time periods after a veteran is honorably discharged in which he or she may be licensed; and (6) These provisions will also apply to the licensure and certification of first responders if Missouri regulates the licensure or certification of first responders in the same manner as the licensure and certification of emergency medical technicians.

This legislation is not federally mandated.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health and Senior Services  
Department of Public Safety -  
    Missouri Veterans Commission  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
Missouri National Guard  
Office of Secretary of State



Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
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