



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number:	H. 3598	Introduced on January 12, 2021
Author:	McGarry	
Subject:	Veterans Service Organization Burial Honor Guard Support Fund	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Gallagher	
Impact Date:	January 27, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill establishes the “Veterans Service Organization Burial Honor Guard Support Fund” as a new fund created in the State Treasury. Revenues of the fund may include gifts, grants, federal funds, donations, and appropriations from the General Assembly. These funds are to be used to offset costs paid by South Carolina chapters of congressionally chartered veterans service organizations (organizations) that provide honor guard burial details at the funerals of South Carolina veterans.

The SC Department of Veterans Affairs (department) anticipates it will be able to absorb any administrative expenses associated with appropriating these funds within current appropriations and using existing staff. However, the department’s expenditures and revenues will increase beginning in FY 2020-21 by an undetermined amount, dependent on the sum of funds received and the number of organizations requesting funds. Due to the varied nature of these funds, this may increase the department’s General Fund, Federal Funds, and Other Funds expenditures and revenues.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill establishes the “Veterans Service Organization Burial Honor Guard Support Fund” as a new fund created in the State Treasury. Revenues of the fund may include gifts, grants, federal funds, donations, and appropriations from the General Assembly. These funds are to be used to offset costs paid by organizations that provide honor guard burial details at the funerals of qualifying South Carolina veterans. In order to be a qualifying veteran, the individual must have been a resident of South Carolina for at least five years and served on active duty. The Secretary of the SC Department of Veterans’ Affairs may disburse from the fund up to \$100 per funeral following a request from the organization that provided the honor guard burial detail.

The department anticipates it will be able to absorb any administrative expenses associated with appropriating these funds within current appropriations and using existing staff. However, the department’s expenditures will increase by an undetermined amount as a result of gifts, grants, federal funds, donations, and appropriations from the General Assembly beginning in FY 2020-21. The total expenditure will be dependent on the amount of funds received and the number of organizations requesting funds. These funds will be used to offset an organization’s costs

associated with the burial of a South Carolina veteran. Due to the varied nature of these funds, this may impact the departments General Fund, Federal Funds, and Other Funds.

State Revenue

Revenues of the “Veterans Service Organization Burial Honor Guard Support Fund” may include gifts, grants, federal funds, donations, and appropriations from the General Assembly. Any earnings on this fund will be credited to it and any balance at the end of the fiscal year will be carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year. The fund is not subject to midyear budget reductions.

As this fund may benefit from a wide array of sources, this bill may increase the department’s General Fund, Other Funds, and Federal Funds revenue beginning in FY 2020-21. However, as the amount deposited in the fund will depend on future gifts, grants, federal funds, donations and appropriations from the General Assembly, the increase in the department’s revenue is undetermined.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director