

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2016 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HJR 30
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HJR030-MVA-OVA-03-12-16
Title: POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY
Sponsor: HERRON
Requester: House Special Committee on MVA

Department: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs
Appropriation: Military and Veterans' Affairs
Allocation: Office of the Commissioner
OMB Component Number: 414

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2017 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2017 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2017	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Not applicable, initial version.

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Agency: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

Phone: (907)428-6007
Date: 03/12/2016 08:30 PM
Date: 03/12/16

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 30

Analysis

HJR 30 states the Alaska State Legislature believes the term “post-traumatic stress disorder” should be universally changed to “post-traumatic stress injury.” It urges the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to change the term “post-traumatic stress disorder” to “post-traumatic stress injury” in the next revision of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, and encourages the Governor to support using the the term “post-traumatic stress injury” instead of “post-traumatic stress disorder.”

HJR 30 is intended to 1) bring greater public awareness to the plight of people suffering from post-traumatic stress injuries, 2) encourage both the public and service providers to recognize and reject the stigma associated with terminology describing a medical condition as a disorder rather than an injury caused by an external source or event, 3) encourage the Alaska Departments of Military and Veterans' Affairs and Health and Social Services and agencies nationwide to continue educating service members and veterans, victims of abuse, crime, and natural disaster, their families, and the public about the causes, symptoms, and possible treatment of post-traumatic stress injuries, and 4) support the nationwide effort now under way to change the convention of referring to post-traumatic stress from a disorder to an injury in order to increase awareness, remove the stigma, and help more Americans get the help they need to recover from post-traumatic stress injuries.

The Alaska Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs applauds any effort to raise public awareness of post-traumatic stress injuries in both military and civilian populations, and welcomes broader understanding of their causes, effects, and treatments. While it is conceivable and even desirable more sufferers of post-traumatic stress injuries would seek treatment as a result of the passage of this bill, the Department's Office of Veterans' Affairs anticipates no measurable increase in service demand. OVA personnel and Veteran Service Officers assist tens of thousands of veterans each year and are equipped to address whatever case load increase might result. Further, unless and until the APA, medical providers, and federal and state administrators adopt the naming convention of “post-traumatic stress injury,” medical diagnoses and treatment will continue to be prescribed and carried out under existing terminology, and there will be no effect on anyone seeking, receiving, or providing treatment under the old terminology. Consequently, the Department anticipates no fiscal impacts from the passage of this bill.