

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 22, 2013**

**TO:** Honorable Leticia Van de Putte, Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** SB898 by Van de Putte (Relating to the mental health program for veterans.), As Introduced

<p><b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
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The bill would amend the Health and Safety Code as it relates to the mental health program for veterans. Under the provisions of the bill, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) would be required to expand the agency's existing mental health intervention program for veterans to include specialized training for peer-to-peer counselors, veteran jail diversion services, and grants to regional and local organizations providing these services. Based on the analysis provided by DSHS and the Texas Veterans Commission, it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources. Based on the analysis provided by the Texas Veterans Commission, it is assumed there is no fiscal impact to that agency.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 403 Veterans Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** UP, CH, KJo, NB