

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 21, 2015

**TO:** Honorable Susan Lewis King, Chair, House Committee on Defense & Veterans' Affairs

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

**IN RE:** **HB450** by Alonzo (Relating to the establishment of veterans resource centers at certain institutions of higher education.), **As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB 450, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$1,815,714) through the biennium ending August 31, 2017.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2016	(\$911,266)
2017	(\$904,448)
2018	(\$904,448)
2019	(\$904,448)
2020	(\$904,448)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2015
2016	(\$911,266)	16.0
2017	(\$904,448)	16.0
2018	(\$904,448)	16.0
2019	(\$904,448)	16.0
2020	(\$904,448)	16.0

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend the Government Code and require the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) to establish and administer 15 regional veterans' resource centers at various institutions of higher education to provide a centralized location for assistance and information regarding veterans' education. Each institution of higher education with a veteran's resource center would be required

to provide office space, office equipment, telephone equipment and service, and internet access, to the center located at that institution.

**Methodology**

It is assumed that TVC would require 16.0 new FTEs, which include 15 veteran resource counselors and one program manager, to operate the veterans' resource center program at a cost of \$638,894 out of the General Revenue Fund in salaries and wages each fiscal year. Benefit costs associated with those positions would total \$216,457 out of the General Revenue Fund each fiscal year. In addition, \$4,800 out of the General Revenue Fund would be needed each fiscal year for operating expenses. Furthermore, travel related expenses of \$40,000 out of the General Revenue Fund will be required each fiscal year for staff to attend meetings and training seminars. A one-time cost of \$11,115 out of the General Revenue Fund in fiscal year 2016 will be needed for a telephone, desk and other office equipment for the program manager mentioned above that will be located at the TVC headquarters to oversee the program. On-going operating costs for that position would be \$4,297 out of the General Revenue Fund each remaining fiscal year.

Institutions of higher education would enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TVC requiring them to bear the cost of office space, office equipment, telephones, computers and internet access for TVC field staff operating at their locations. It is assumed that any additional costs associated with implementation of the legislation by these entities could be absorbed within existing resources.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house. Otherwise the bill would take effect September 1, 2015.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 403 Veterans Commission, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 783 University of Houston System Administration

**LBB Staff:** UP, FR, EP, KPe