

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 3177**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**221st LEGISLATURE**

DATED: MAY 1, 2024

**SUMMARY**

**Synopsis:** Establishes New Jersey Veteran Services Grant Program in DMVA; makes appropriation.

**Type of Impact:** Annual State expenditure increase.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs.

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Year 1</u></b>	<b><u>Year 2 &amp; Thereafter</u></b>
<b>State Expenditure Increase</b>	Up to \$2,000,000	Indeterminate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that in the first year this bill will increase State expenditures by up to \$2 million for the implementation of the veteran services grant program. Future year costs to the State are indeterminate and will depend on the number and dollar amount of grants awarded to qualified veterans' organizations to undertake the assistance and training requirements described in the bill.

**BILL DESCRIPTION**

This bill establishes a veteran services grant program in the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs. The program will provide grants to qualified veterans' organization to: 1) assist veterans in applying for and receiving State and federal benefits; and 2) provide training to veterans service officers employed by the department. Under the program, an organization can receive a grant for veterans' assistance only, training only, or both.

This bill requires the department to develop guidelines and procedures for the submission and evaluation of applications. The department also must establish the terms and conditions for the awarding of grants and require the grant recipients to report their use of grant funds. The department also must submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature regarding the effectiveness of the program. Additionally, the bill requires the department to submit a request for sufficient funds to carry out the purposes and the intent of the program in their annual budget request.

This bill appropriates \$2 million to the department to administer the grant program.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

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The bill would cause an increase in the administrative workload of the department that may be absorbed by the department's operating budget.

*Section: State Government*

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Assistant Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: Thomas Koenig  
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).