



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

# FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 892

PRINTER'S NO. 1302

PRIME SPONSOR: **Kaufer**

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
General Fund	\$0	\$0

#### SUMMARY:

Codifies in statute the existing PA VETConnect program within the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (DMVA).

#### ANALYSIS:

House Bill 892 inserts Section 714 (PA VetConnect Program) into Title 51 (Military Affairs) establishing in statute the PA VetConnect Program. The PA VetConnect Program, which the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs is already administering, seeks to improve the health and well-being of veterans and their families through referrals, community engagement, and consistent network communication and to provide proactive solutions to address the problems faced by veterans.

The duties of the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (DMVA) include coordinating with federal and state agencies, county directors of veterans' affairs, veterans service organizations, postsecondary educational and technical institutions, as well as healthcare providers, businesses, and nonprofit organizations that serve veterans and their families to provide referrals, community engagement, and consistent network communication with veterans about the benefits and programs available to them.

The legislation also changes the name of the information packet provided to returning veterans from "Welcome Home Pennsylvania" to "Pennsylvania Salutes You for Your Service."

This legislation would take effect in 60 days upon enactment.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

According to the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The duties and responsibilities of the PA VetConnect program as enacted in this legislation align with the PA VETConnect Program that currently exists within the department, and the requirements established in the bill will be integrated into the department's current activities.

The PA VETConnect Program is currently funded through the department's General Government Operations appropriation. The department budgeted approximately \$400,000 for the program in 2022/23 and \$412,2000 in 2023/24.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

**DATE:** June 7, 2023

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*