

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2022 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader**

House Bill 167 (Delegate Bagnall, *et al.*)  
 Health and Government Operations Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Commission to Establish a Maryland Women Veterans Memorial**

This bill establishes the Commission to Establish a Maryland Women Veterans Memorial to provide recommendations for the funding, design, construction, and placement of an appropriate memorial dedicated to Maryland women veterans. The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) must staff the commission. Commission members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses. By February 1, 2023, the commission must submit a preliminary report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; a final report is due by September 30, 2023. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2022, and terminates June 30, 2024.**

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$23,400 in FY2023 and \$10,400 in FY2024 for contractual staff. Reimbursements for task force members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	23,400	10,400	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$23,400)	(\$10,400)	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease*

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Current Law:** MDVA administers the Veterans’ Memorials and Monuments Program to provide for the operation, maintenance, security, and preservation of veterans’ memorials and monuments. MDVA is authorized, as provided for in the budget, to (1) lease land on behalf of the State or a political subdivision of the State or (2) acquire land that has been improved by construction of a memorial or monument. MDVA must, as provided for in the budget, provide for the management of veterans’ memorials and monuments. MDVA may delegate any of its powers and duties with respect to the program to a special commission or board created by MDVA and approved by the Governor. MDVA may acquire, hold, use, and improve property for the program.

Chapter 282 of 2006 established, and Chapters 537 and 538 of 2009 reestablished, a Commission on the Establishment of a Maryland Women in Military Service Monument, staffed by MDVA. The commission terminated September 30, 2014. A monument, dedicated on November 11, 2014, is located at the Chesapeake Travel Plaza on Interstate 95 in Cecil County. There is no monument in Maryland specifically for women veterans.

**State Fiscal Effect:** MDVA general fund expenditures increase by \$23,422 in fiscal 2023, which accounts for a 90-day start-up delay from the bill’s July 1, 2022 effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one part-time contractual administrative officer to staff the commission and produce the mandatory reports. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses. MDVA advises that the department is unable to absorb additional duties and has determined that one temporary, part-time contractual position is needed to implement the bill. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

	<u><b>FY 2023</b></u>	<u><b>FY 2024</b></u>
Contractual Position	0.5	(0.5)
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$16,476	\$10,172
Operating Expenses	<u>6,946</u>	<u>266</u>
<b>Total MDVA Expenditures</b>	<b>\$23,422</b>	<b>\$10,438</b>

In fiscal 2024, MDVA general fund expenditures increase by \$10,438, which reflects elimination of the contractual position on December 31, 2023, following submission of the required report due September 30, 2023.

This estimate does not include any health insurance costs that could be incurred for specified contractual employees under the State’s implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of General Services; Department of Veterans Affairs; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 11, 2022  
fnu2/jc Third Reader - March 17, 2022

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