

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2003 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 1028 (Delegates Boschert and Love)  
Health and Government Operations

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**Task Force to Study Veterans and Their Impact on the State**

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This bill establishes a Task Force to Study Veterans and Their Impact on the State to review the fiscal impact of veterans leaving the State for more advantageous situations; the cost of health care paid by the State for veterans; the cost of losing volunteers in the State who are veterans; and the cost, as they relate to veterans, of maintaining homeless programs, alcohol- and drug-related programs, and out-of-state care costs. The Governor must appoint task force members with the advice of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Task force members cannot receive compensation but are entitled to expense reimbursements. The task force must report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before October 1, 2004. The Department of Veterans Affairs is required to provide staff support for the task force.

The bill is effective July 1, 2003 and sunsets October 31, 2004.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Any expense reimbursements for the task force members and staffing costs for the Department of Veterans Affairs are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Background:** According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, there are approximately 493,000 veterans living in Maryland. **Exhibit 1** shows the number of veterans by period of service, and **Exhibit 2** shows the amount of federal expenditures provided to veterans in fiscal 2001 by county.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 11, 2003  
ncs/hlb

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**Exhibit 1**  
**Veterans in Maryland**  
**By Period of Service**

**Wartime Veterans**

**Gulf War**

Total <sup>1</sup>	57,000
Gulf War Only	52,000

**Vietnam Era**

Total <sup>1</sup>	165,000
Vietnam Era Only	152,000

**Korean Conflict**

Total <sup>1</sup>	73,000
Korean Conflict Only	58,000

**World War II** 88,000

**World War I** \*

**Total Wartime Veterans<sup>2</sup>** 360,000

<b>Wartime Veterans</b>	360,000
<b>Peacetime Veterans</b>	<u>133,000</u>
<b>Total Veterans</b>	493,000

Notes:  
<sup>1</sup> This sum includes veterans who served in multiple periods.  
<sup>2</sup> Veterans serving in more than one period of service are counted only once in the total.  
 \* Represents fewer than 500 individuals.

Source: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

**Exhibit 2**  
**Veterans Affairs (VA) Expenditures in Fiscal 2001**

<u>County</u>	<u>Veteran Population</u>	<u>Compensation/ Pension</u>	<u>Readjustment/ Vocational Rehabilitation</u>	<u>Insurance/ Indemnities</u>	<u>Construction/ Related Costs</u>	<u>Medical Services/ Administrative</u>	<u>Total Expenditures</u>
Allegany	8,093	\$9,066,444	\$353,259	\$767,126	\$0	\$0	\$10,186,829
Anne Arundel	51,349	41,205,127	3,667,502	4,542,521	0	0	49,415,150
Baltimore City	63,347	52,792,973	3,472,363	5,333,614	1,704,450	213,633,729	276,937,129
Baltimore	73,237	41,699,940	3,041,857	6,481,060	30,357	22,410,242	73,663,456
Calvert	6,255	4,605,195	228,102	515,363	0	0	5,348,660
Caroline	2,665	1,797,994	81,680	222,067	0	0	2,101,741
Carroll	12,822	6,750,813	559,655	1,049,259	0	0	8,359,727
Cecil	7,634	6,910,448	201,585	650,743	37,064	90,726,830	98,526,670
Charles	11,345	11,294,391	939,858	954,695	0	0	13,188,944
Dorchester	2,967	3,096,821	67,459	268,654	0	0	3,432,934
Frederick	15,943	11,800,676	998,188	1,344,871	0	0	14,143,735
Garrett	2,616	3,406,127	118,413	214,022	0	0	3,738,562
Harford	20,346	21,672,703	1,014,525	1,715,208	0	0	24,402,436
Howard	19,965	8,400,944	1,033,349	1,638,588	0	0	11,072,881
Kent	1,845	1,358,776	40,413	173,206	0	0	1,572,395
Montgomery	71,943	44,920,920	3,451,737	6,013,884	0	0	54,386,541
Prince George's	76,582	73,305,430	7,401,626	6,346,437	0	0	87,053,493
Queen Anne's	3,769	2,389,371	92,145	334,617	0	0	2,816,133
St. Mary's	8,714	7,607,048	684,700	751,372	0	0	9,043,120
Somerset	2,624	2,536,970	88,716	224,847	0	0	2,850,533
Talbot	3,505	2,196,445	44,862	350,202	0	0	2,591,509
Washington	13,365	10,185,873	445,202	1,160,293	0	0	11,791,368
Wicomico	7,703	7,217,697	366,864	661,189	0	0	8,245,750
Worcester	4,153	3,604,041	57,344	408,204	0	0	4,069,589
<b>Total</b>	<b>492,787</b>	<b>\$379,823,166</b>	<b>\$28,451,404</b>	<b>\$42,122,042</b>	<b>\$1,771,871</b>	<b>\$326,770,801</b>	<b>\$778,939,284</b>

Source: Veteran population data from VetPop 2001 Model, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.