

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1805

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Lindsey

3. **Committee:** General Laws

4. **Title:** Veteran Entrepreneurship Grant Fund and Program.

5. **Summary:** Veteran Entrepreneurship Grant Fund and Program. Creates the Veteran Entrepreneurship Grant Fund and Program to be administered by the Department of Veterans Services and sets out the requirements for applying for grants from the Fund and the award of grants by the Department. The bill provides that records related to the Fund and Program are exempt from mandatory disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2018, and contains a technical amendment.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2015	\$0		
2016	\$0		
2017	Indeterminate		General
2018	Indeterminate		General
2019			
2020			
2021			

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation creates a special nonreverting fund to be administered by the Department of Veterans Services (Department). Under the Program, the Department will award grant funds to veterans to assist them in starting their own business or purchasing a franchise in the Commonwealth. Beginning July 1, 2016, veterans may apply to the Department for a grant of up to \$5,000 or 10 percent of anticipated business start-up costs, whichever is less. To be eligible for assistance under the Program, a veteran shall (i) be a resident of the Commonwealth at the time he submits the application for grant funding and (ii) have been honorably discharged from the armed services of the United States. There are no funds currently budgeted for this program; therefore, the Department will need additional appropriation beginning in fiscal year 2017 to implement this bill. According to the Department,

it will seek funding in fiscal year 2017 and 2018 to support only 20 awards under this program. With a maximum award total of \$5,000, the Department would seek \$100,000 each year to support the program. The program expires July 1, 2018.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Veterans Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: Similar to HB2259.

Date: February 2, 2015
DPB Analyst: jgc