

Department of Planning and Budget
2019 Fiscal Impact Statement
REVISED

1. Bill Number: HB2518

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: Ayala

3. Committee: House Appropriations

4. Title: Disabled Veteran's State Museum Passport established; free entry into state museums, etc.

5. Summary: Provides that the Department of Veterans Services shall establish a Disabled Veteran's State Museum Passport that entitles the bearer to enter state museums and other cultural institutions without paying a parking or admission fee. The passport shall be issued upon request to a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or reserves, including the National Guard with a letter from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or from the military service that discharged the veteran, certifying that such veteran has a service-connected disability rating of 50 percent or higher. The passport shall be valid for as long as the determination of the 50 percent or higher service-connected disability by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs remains in effect.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 468.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See below.

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Veterans Services (DVS), there were 95,530 disabled veterans with a service-connected disability rating of 50 percent or higher in the Commonwealth in 2016. DVS estimates it could receive 5,000-10,000 applications for a passport in the first year of this program, and an unknown number of applications thereafter. DVS anticipates needing one additional wage employee to determine applicants' eligibility, generate passports, and process requests, at an approximate annual cost of \$18,349. Additionally, DVS estimates it would need \$7,500 for passport materials and \$7,500 to cover shipping costs annually.

There is a minimal anticipated fiscal impact on the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia, Gunston Hall, and the Natural History Museum.

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) estimates it would lose approximately \$17,230 in parking revenue as a result of the provisions of this bill. The VMFA had 3,446 disabled veteran visitors in FY 2018; this estimate assumes each of those visitors paid the \$5 parking fee. The VMFA provides free general admission. However, the VMFA does charge for

special exhibits. There would be additional lost revenue to the VMFA should this bill be construed to provide free admission to disabled veterans for special exhibits.

The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation (JYF) operates the Jamestown Settlement and the American Revolution Museum. JYF estimates its admissions revenue would be reduced by \$26,000-\$33,000 annually as a result of the provisions of this legislation, which is based on the agency's estimate of the number of disabled veterans with a service-connected disability rating of 50 percent or higher who visited the museums in 2018.

Any potential impact on the Science Museum of Virginia is indeterminate at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Veterans Services, Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Science Museum of Virginia, Natural History Museum, Gunston Hall, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.