

**REVISED (1/31/2020)**  
**Department of Planning and Budget**  
**2020 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB362

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed

**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron:**    Dunnavant

**3. Committee:** General Laws and Technology

**4. Title:**    Department of Veterans Services; hyperbaric oxygen therapy; data collection.

**5. Summary:** Provides that the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) may contract with any hospital in the Commonwealth that furnishes the treatment option of hyperbaric oxygen therapy to provide such therapy to any veteran in the Commonwealth who has been certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as having post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury. DVS shall include in any contract with such hospital to provide such therapy the requirement that data be collected to assess the efficacy of hyperbaric oxygen therapy for such veterans and any other information deemed relevant by DVS.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes. Item 464.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item 8

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2020			
2021	\$200,000	2	General
2022	\$200,000	2	General
2023	\$200,000	2	General
2024	\$200,000	2	General
2025	\$200,000	2	General
2026	\$200,000	2	General

**8. Fiscal Implications:** Upon further review of the legislation by the Department of Veterans Services (DVS), the agency has determined that it is not currently structured to enter into contracts with hospitals to prescribe hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) as a court of treatment or to work with hospitals and physicians to collect, monitor and collaborate on the collection of scientific and medical data. DVS estimates it would need two additional FTE who are specialists in collecting, analyzing, and interpreting such data, tracking the information, and managing contract agreements. The estimated cost for these two positions is \$200,000 annually.

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

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.