

## 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB1446

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

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

**2. Patron:** Cosgrove

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

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

**5. Summary:** Allows the Department of Veterans Services to contract with any hospital in the Commonwealth that furnishes the treatment option of hyperbaric oxygen therapy to provide hyperbaric oxygen 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. The Department must include in any contract with such hospital to furnish hyperbaric oxygen therapy the requirement that data be collected to assess the efficacy of hyperbaric oxygen therapy for veterans and any other information deemed relevant by the Department.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Indeterminate.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary (see Item 8).

**8. Fiscal Implications:** According to the Department of Veterans Services (DVS), this proposal is beyond the scope of what the agency currently offers and would require additional resources to provide such services. However, at this time, DVS does not have sufficient information to determine the costs associated with the services, including the number of individuals who may be served per contract. As such, the fiscal impact on the agency operations cannot be determined at this time.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.