



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

SB16-134

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 16-0829 **Date:** March 10, 2016
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Heath; Garcia **Bill Status:** Senate Business, Labor & Technology
 Rep. Danielson; Kagan **Fiscal Analyst:** Erin Reynolds (303-866-4146)

BILL TOPIC: PROFESSIONAL LICENSING FOR MILITARY VETERANS

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2015-2016 <i>(current year)</i>	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018
State Revenue			
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.		
Appropriation Required: None.			
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing minimal workload increase.			

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires that a military veteran's service experience be considered toward emergency medical service (EMS) provider and commercial driver's license (CDL) qualifications. Specifically, the Department of Public Health and Environment (DPHE) must consider a military veteran's continuing medical education, training, or service during the initial EMS certification; and the Department of Revenue (DOR) must consider a military veteran's training, education, or experience during the CDL licensing process, and may provide credit toward a CDL for those qualifications.

Finally, the Division of Veterans Affairs in the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) is required to make reasonable efforts to notify military veterans returning home or planning to relocate to Colorado of the departments' requirements under the bill, and also the similar requirements in current law for the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) to consider military service as a qualifier for licensing and certification for the 50 professions it regulates.

State Expenditures

The bill will increase workload in the DPHE, DOR, and DMVA, as described below. This workload impact is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Department of Public Health and Environment. Under the bill, DPHE will have an increase in workload to consider a military veteran's continuing medical education, training, or service during the initial EMS certification. Because of its current policy of considering these qualifications for certification renewal, this workload can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Department of Revenue. The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) within DOR has previously established a "Vets2Trucks" program, in collaboration with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the DMVA, and local military bases. Under the program, the DMV waives the commercial driving skills portion of the CDL test for active military members or veterans who provide proof of qualification; these individuals must pass the written test. As a result, DOR is expected to continue expanding their existing efforts.

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The Division of Veterans Affairs in DMVA will notify military veterans returning home or planning to relocate to Colorado of these programs as part of its ongoing workload acting as a liaison between the state and local veterans services offices to keep those offices informed of veterans assistance programs.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education	Judicial	Law
Military and Veterans Affairs	Natural Resources	Public Health and Environment
Regulatory Agencies	Revenue	Secretary of State

Research Note Available

An LCS Research Note for SB 16-134 is available online and through the iLegislate app. Research notes provide additional policy and background information about the bill and summarize action taken by the General Assembly concerning the bill.