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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Wooley ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/15
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 50
SHORT TITLE Napropathic Treatment for Veterans with PTSD SB _____
ANALYST Chenier

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	\$125.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Department of Veterans' Services (DVS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 50 appropriates \$125 thousand from the general fund to the Veterans' Services Department for expenditure in FY16 to study the effects of napropathic treatments on veterans diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$125 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY16 shall revert to the general fund.

DOH stated that "if this is a new treatment for PTSD, one year may be an insufficient duration to study the treatment effects for Veterans."

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH stated that "Naprapathic therapy is not considered part of the standard of care by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care System (USVAHCS). Additionally, DOH did a

search on PubMed, an online database of peer-reviewed journal articles. A PubMed search using the keyword “posttraumatic stress disorder” yielded over 10,000 studies; however, a similar search using the keywords “posttraumatic stress disorder” and “naprapathy” yielded zero results.

According to the American Naprapathic Association:

“naprapathic medicine is a specialized system of health care that employs hands-on manual medicine, nutritional counseling and a wide variety of therapeutic modalities. Naprapathy focuses on conditions caused by contracted, injured, spasmed, bruised, and/or otherwise affected myofascial and connective tissue. Connective tissue supports and contains all of the integral structures of the entire body, including the tissue surrounding the spinal column and spinal cord, it envelopes muscles, organs, joints and all of the articulations of the body. This unique gel-like tissue includes ligaments, tendons, fascia, inter-vertebral discs, and cartilage of which all can develop into a pathologic condition which responds well to Naprapathic intervention. Naprapaths have a very specialized and holistic approach to address connective tissue problems.

DVS stated that they would require a staff member to devote a significant amount of time to the research and development of this study.

ALTERNATIVES

Change the appropriation to the DOH so a proper medical evaluation can be enacted.

EC/bb