



House of Representatives

File No. 699

General Assembly

January Session, 2021

(Reprint of File No. 199)

House Bill No. 5737
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 20, 2021

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A VETERANS AND MILITARY TOURISM TRAIL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Commissioner of
2 Veterans Affairs, or the commissioner's designee, may (1) establish, in
3 consultation with the Department of Economic and Community
4 Development, a Veterans and Military Tourism Trail linking museums,
5 memorials, battleground sites and other historic sites in the state
6 relating to veterans and the United States armed forces, and (2) publicize
7 the existence of the Veterans and Military Tourism Trail and shall
8 publish a brochure that indicates the location and history of each site,
9 provided said Commissioner shall solicit private donations to cover the
10 entire cost of such publicizing and publishing.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	New section
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The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill as amended has no fiscal impact because the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) has the expertise and current staff to administer the requirements pursuant to the bill.

House Amendment "A" redirects the administrative responsibilities from the Department of Economic Development (DECD) to DVA, eliminating the cost to DECD and making advertising and marketing of the program contingent upon private donations.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5737 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CREATING A VETERANS AND MILITARY TOURISM TRAIL.*****SUMMARY**

This bill allows the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), in consultation with the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), to establish a Veterans and Military Tourism Trail that links museums, memorials, battleground sites, and other historic sites related to veterans and the U.S. Armed Forces. It additionally allows DVA to establish a program to publicize the trail and publish an informational brochure on the trail sites' locations and histories, provided the DVA commissioner solicits private donations to cover their costs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021

*House Amendment A makes DVA, rather than DECD, the agency primarily responsible for establishing the trail and its promotional materials and allows it to do so, rather than requiring it. Additionally, it specifies that DVA's authority to provide a promotional program and brochure is contingent upon the commissioner's solicitation of sufficient private funding.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/18/2021)