

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-914

AN ACT CONCERNING HMONG LAOTIAN SPECIAL GUERRILLA  
UNITS WHICH SERVED IN THE KINGDOM OF LAOS.

## ***OFA Fiscal Note***

### ***State Impact:***

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 22 \$</b>	<b>FY 23 \$</b>
Department of Veterans' Affairs	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Institutional General Welfare Fund - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Military Dept.	GF - Cost	Up to 20,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

### ***Explanation***

The bill expands eligibility for certain veterans benefits to members of the Hmong Laotian special guerilla units that served in the Kingdom of Laos during the Vietnam war and surviving spouses. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), there are currently approximately 60 members of these special guerilla units in Connecticut.

**Sections 1 and 2** expand eligibility for veteran-status license plates, driver's licenses and identity cards. These sections result in no fiscal impact because the requisite fees cover the cost.

**Section 3** results in a potential cost of \$1,800 per veteran for the payment of funeral expenses for certain eligible veterans paid for out of the General Fund. The annual impact will depend on how many

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individuals are served beginning in FY 22.

**Section 4** results in a potential cost of \$1,750 to \$3,025 per veteran for the payment of burial expenses for the State Veterans' Cemetery paid for out of the Institutional General Welfare Fund. The annual impact will depend on how many individuals are served beginning in FY 22.

**Section 5** requires ribbons and medals to be awarded to members of the Hmong Laotian special guerilla units resulting in a cost of up to \$20,000 to the Military Department in FY 22. The cost includes medal and ribbon design and manufacturing.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future depending on the number of eligible veterans.