

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB787

Patron: Cifers

Bill Title: Virginia National Guard TRICARE Reimbursement Fund established.

Bill Summary: Establishes the Virginia National Guard TRICARE Reimbursement Fund for the purpose of reimbursing the costs of federal TRICARE dental insurance plan premiums and TRICARE Reserve Select health insurance plan premiums for Virginia National Guard members deemed eligible by the Adjutant General.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: 465

Explanation: See fiscal analysis

Fiscal Summary: The bill in its current form does not set up a funding source for the proposed Virginia National Guard TRICARE Reimbursement Fund. Therefore, the funding for the proposed fund is subject to the appropriation of the General Assembly and the Governor.

According to the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), it is anticipated that one additional grants administrator position at an annual cost of \$106,865 (first year estimate is prorated for 10 months) is necessary to administer the proposed grant.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
DMA	\$89,054	\$106,865	\$106,865	\$106,865	\$106,865	\$106,865
TOTAL	\$89,054	\$106,865	\$106,865	\$106,865	\$106,865	\$106,865

Fiscal Analysis: According to DMA, one additional grants administrator position with a base salary of \$70,000 annually is anticipated to be needed to administer and manage the grant program. The position would have the responsibility of establishing grant policies and guidelines and determining the eligibility of National Guard members for healthcare cost reimbursements. Total estimated annual cost of the position is \$106,865, including salary and fringe benefits. The first-year estimate is prorated for 10 months to allow time for recruitment and training.

In addition, DMA estimates that approximately \$6,061,991 is the maximum annual amount of funding needed to reimburse every eligible Virginia National Guard member their monthly TRICARE Reserve Select healthcare premium and TRICARE Reserve Select dental premium. This estimate is based on 7,278 eligible National Guard members receiving a monthly reimbursement of \$57.88 for TRICARE Reserve Select healthcare premiums and \$11.53 for TRICARE Reserve Select dental premiums, which are the current TRICARE premium rates. TRICARE premium rates are adjusted annually and the fiscal impact is likely to be higher as rates increase. This estimate

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assumes that every eligible Virginia National Guard member elects to opt in to the TRICARE Reserve Select health and dental insurance plans and therefore is a maximum fiscal impact estimate. However, the proposed Virginia National Guard TRICARE Reimbursement Fund is subject to the appropriation of the General Assembly and the Governor, and therefore the cost of implementing such a fund is indeterminate at this time.

Other: None.