

FISCAL NOTE

February 15, 2018

Bill No:	SB 52	Printer's No:	1425	Sponsor:	Greenleaf (R)
-----------------	-------	----------------------	------	-----------------	---------------

COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2017-18	2018-19
General Fund	See "FISCAL IMPACT"	See "FISCAL IMPACT"

SUMMARY: This bill would amend Title 51 (Military Affairs) to establish the National Guard Youth Challenge Program within the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA).

ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 52 would require DMVA, in consultation with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), to establish a youth challenge program consistent with the Federal National Guard Youth Challenge Program. Both DMVA and PDE would be required to post the guidelines of the program on the home page of the departmental website. Additionally, PDE would be required to annually distribute the program guidelines and relevant program information to all commonwealth schools. The program would be known as the Keystone State Challenge Academy. The program would consist of a 22-week residential program and a 12-month post-residential mentoring period, consistent with the Federal program. Participation requirements would be prescribed by the United States Department of Defense (DOD) and would be staffed by the administrative, professional, technical and clerical employees necessary for the operation of the program. The program would also be subject to 32 U.S.C. § 509 (relating to National Guard Youth Challenge Program of opportunities for civilian youth), as well as its implementing regulations and applicable agreements. Establishment of the program would be contingent on appropriated funding.

DMVA would be required to apply for funding, as provided under Federal law pertaining to the National Guard Youth Challenge Program of opportunities for civilian youth. DMVA would also be permitted to supplement funding with other resources, including gifts (made available to DMVA) and may also accept, use and dispose of gifts or donations of money other property or services for the program. Additionally, an advisory council would be established for the program. The council would consist of the Adjutant General (a non-voting member), as well as a total of nine members, in which the Governor, the House of Representatives and the Senate would be permitted to appoint three members each. Each member would serve for the duration of the term of the appointment authority and would be prohibited from receiving compensation for their services, other than the reimbursement for the necessary and proper expenses for attendance at the meetings.

DMVA would be required to submit an annual report concerning the program to the House and Senate Education and Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee. The report would include the number of individuals who applied and participated in the program, the number of participants who enrolled in an institution of higher education, the number of participants who entered the United States Armed Forces, as well as others as defined under this

FISCAL NOTE

February 15, 2018

act. Additionally, DMVA would be required to undergo an annual audit of the program. The audit would be performed by an independent certified public accountant and would be submitted to the House and Senate Education and Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee.

This act would be effective 60 days upon passage.

FISCAL IMPACT: This program would be contingent upon appropriated funding. DMVA would incur \$1,000,000 in state funds and \$4,000,000 in federal funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19. The first-year of funding would be used for infrastructure and planning to begin implementation of the Keystone State Challenge Academy Program, as established under this act. In the out-years, the amount of federal assistance would be based on a 75 percent federal match, with the commonwealth responsible for 25 percent of the costs of the program. The out-year costs would be projected based on fiscal estimates available after the planning stages of the program. DMVA would incur a nominal cost to obtain an independent certified public accountant to conduct an annual audit of the program. The costs incurred from the annual audit would be included in DMVA's program cost and subject to the 75 percent federal match and 25 percent state contribution.