

Revised based on new information

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *</b>				
	<b>FY 2008-09</b>		<b>FY 2009-10</b>	
	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>
GENERAL FUNDS	See Below		See Below	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See Below		See Below	

\*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

This bill creates an assistance program for Nebraska veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom who are in need of comprehensive post-acute brain injury services that are not reimbursable under the federal TRICARE program. Providers would be the same as those who provide Medicaid services and would be paid the same rate.

The term “comprehensive post-acute brain injury services” is intended to mean a specific treatment modality. It is unclear if the term could apply to a more general range of services, as was assumed in the fiscal note prepared by the Department of Health and Human Services. The narrower-focused service is needed on average for 120 days following acute care. It is not covered by TRICARE or the Veterans’ Administration. The Medicaid reimbursement rate at Quality Living in Omaha where the service is available is \$587 a day. The average cost per person receiving the service would be \$70,440. Currently there are no known Nebraska veterans of either Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom receiving this service. Although there are no veterans meeting the criteria at this time, this bill does create an entitlement. Anyone needing the service would be eligible. Because disabled veterans receive military disability income, they are not Medicaid eligible because their income exceeds allowable eligibility limits. The funding would be from State General Funds. The fiscal impact cannot be determined but could range from no cost to a multiple of \$70,440.

Technical Note: A more specific definition of comprehensive post-acute brain injury services may be needed to clarify the scope of the intended coverage.