

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6584
BILL NUMBER: HB 1216

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 15, 2025
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Program.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Hamilton
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) to establish and administer a Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Program (HBOT Program) to make grants to certain providers to provide diagnostic testing and hyperbaric oxygen treatment to qualified service members. The bill also establishes program requirements.

The bill requires the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) to: (1) issue a request for proposals to offer treatment under the program; and (2) adopt rules to implement these provisions, including rules concerning program eligibility, treatment plan requirements, criteria for approving payments for treatment, and confidentiality.

The bill provides that funding for the program is paid from the Military Family Relief Fund. It makes conforming amendments related to the sunset of the Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Pilot Program.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF):* The bill establishes a new Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Program (HBOT Program) to make grants from the MFRF. This will increase expenditures from the fund, though the bill caps HBOT expenditures from the MFRF at \$400,000 per year. The MFRF processed 1,636 applications in FY 2024, awarding 793 grants for a total of \$926,500. A majority of the money in the MFRF is received in the form of fees for military service-affiliated license plates. Average annual license plate fee revenue to the MFRF since 2019 has been approximately \$1.9 M.

HBOT Program: The requirements of the bill will increase workload at the IDVA and the IDOH to establish the program and advertise it in various forms of media. The expenses of the program are to be paid from the MFRF.

Additional Information: The Veterans' Affairs Commission oversees the Veterans' Affairs Trust Fund, which was created in 2007 as a self-sustaining funding source for the MFRF. At the direction of the Veterans' Affairs Commission, excess money in the MFRF is routinely transferred to the trust fund and money from

the trust fund may be transferred to the MFRF to ensure adequate funding during periods of high usage. As of June 30, 2025, the MFRF had a balance of \$3.1 M and the trust fund had a balance of approximately \$12 M. The bill specifies that the IDVA, rather than the Veterans' Affairs Commission, will administer grants from the MFRF specific to the HBOT program.

The HBOT Pilot Program, administered in collaboration with IDVA and IDOH was established in 2017 with a \$1.0 M appropriation. The Pilot Program included a request for proposal process from IDOH to establish qualified providers, provided funding for research, and provided funds for HBOT treatment for a limited number of veterans. The agencies may be able to build upon the structure of the Pilot Program to mitigate the costs of establishing a new program. Thirty-nine veterans have received HBOT treatment during the Pilot Program, either during or after the research study. Costs for HBOT treatments range from \$100 to \$600 for a single session, yet most providers offer discounted packages for multiple treatments as many plans call for 40 dive sessions.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs, Indiana Department of Health.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Kyle Gross, IDVA; IDVA Annual Reports,
<https://www.in.gov/dva/programs-and-services2/the-commission/annual-reports/>
Indiana Department of Health.

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