

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 2030 – HB 2130

April 5, 2018

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Creates a Class A misdemeanor for criminal impersonation for any person who pretends to be an active duty member or veteran of uniformed service with the intent to obtain money, property, services, or other tangible benefits. Requires all imposed fine proceeds to be paid into the General Fund and be credited to a separate account for the sole use of supporting and maintaining state veterans' homes. Repeals the offense of unlawful wearing of a uniform or decorations of the armed forces.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (016280, 016599):** Amendment 016280 deletes all language after the enacting clause. Enacts the Tennessee Stolen Valor Act creating a Class A misdemeanor for criminal impersonation for any person who pretends to be an active duty member or veteran of uniformed service with the intent to obtain money, property, services, or other tangible benefits. Requires all imposed fine proceeds be paid into the General Fund and be credited to a separate account for the sole use of supporting and maintaining state veterans' homes. Repeals the offense of unlawful wearing of a uniform or decorations of the armed forces.

Amendment 016599 deletes language from the bill as amended by amendment 016280 that required all imposed fine proceeds be paid into the General Fund and be credited to a separate account for the sole use of supporting and maintaining state veterans' homes and replaces it with the requirement that all imposed fine proceeds be paid into the General Fund and be allocated to assist in veteran property tax relief, subject to the general appropriations act.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

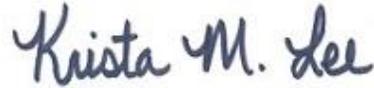
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 58-1-602, unlawful wearing of a uniform or decorations of the armed forces is a Class C misdemeanor.

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- The proposed legislation repeals that offense and replaces it with a Class A misdemeanor offense of criminal impersonation of a member or veteran of uniformed service with the intent to obtain money, property, services, or other tangible benefits. It is assumed that some of these offenses are currently being charged under Tenn. Code Ann. § 58-1-602.
- Any impact on the court system is estimated to be not significant.
- There will not be a sufficient number of misdemeanor prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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