

**Bill Summary**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 931</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>CS1</b>
<b>Request No.:</b>	<b>1864</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sen. Rosino</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>02/20/2019</b>

**Committee Substitute (CS)**

The CS for SB 931 creates the Veterans' Volunteer Guardianship Act. The measure directs the chief judge of each district court to provide for a court review by November 1, 2020, of each guardianship case in which a guardian was appointed prior to November 1, 2019.

A court may appoint a guardian or limited guardian, who shall represent an incapacitated or partially incapacitated adult veteran in court. Prior to a person's appointment as a guardian, he or she must post a bond of in an amount determined by the measure. If the guardian's duties in a particular case do not include the management of property, the court may waive or reduce the bond. The Oklahoma Department of Veteran Affairs will determine additional benefits and requirements for appointed guardians. Additionally, the guardian must maintain regular contact with health and social workers when applicable to the veteran's case.

The measure outlines particular qualifications for a veteran to qualify for the program and requires the Secretary of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be notified of any court proceeding involving a veteran entitled to benefits.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor

**Fiscal Analysis**

FY'20 Impact: \$30,000.00

Full Year Impact: \$30,000.00

SB 931 will allow a court to appoint a guardian for a veteran of Oklahoma. The possible cost comes from the bond that shall be provided on behalf of the volunteer guardian by ODVA. ODVA has estimated there are roughly 140 veterans in need of this assistance at a cost of \$170 per person for a \$25,000 bond. Allowing an allowance for additional veterans, ODVA's current estimate is a cost of \$30,000 per year, which they will cover with current resources.

Prepared by: Fiscal Staff