LINE ITEM AND BOILERPLATE SUMMARY

MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Fiscal Year 2005-06 Public Act 145 of 2005 Senate Bill 277

As Enacted



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December 2005

TO: Members of the Michigan House of Representatives

The House Fiscal Agency has prepared a **Line Item Summary** for each of the FY 2005-06 appropriation acts. Each **Summary** contains line-by-line detail, including the amount and purpose of each appropriation line and information regarding related boilerplate sections, for a specific appropriation act. Following the line item detail, a brief explanation of each boilerplate section in the appropriations bill is provided.

In this report, line item vetoes are presented in the following manner: appropriation amounts shown in strikeout are those that appear in the enrolled bill; amounts shown directly below strikeout amounts reflect the effect of the veto.

Line Item Summaries are available on the HFA website (www.house.mi.gov/hfa), or from Jeanne Dee, Administrative Assistant (373-8080 or <u>idee@ house.mi.gov</u>).

Mitchell E. Bean, Director

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GLOSSARY: State Budget Terms

STATE BUDGET TERMS

Gross Appropriations (Gross): The total of all applicable appropriations (statutory spending authorizations) in a budget bill.

Adjusted Gross Appropriations (Adjusted Gross): The net amount of all gross appropriations after subtracting interdepartmental grants (IDGs) and intradepartmental transfers (IDTs).

Lapses: Appropriation amounts that are unspent/unobligated at the end of a fiscal year.. Appropriations are automatically terminated at the end of a fiscal year unless otherwise provided by law.

Work Project: A statutorily-authorized account which allows a spending authorization to be carried over from one fiscal year to a succeeding fiscal year or years— i.e., allows funds to be spent over a period of years.

APPROPRIATION BILL TERMS

Line Item: Specific funding amount in an appropriation bill which establishes spending authorization for a particular program or function (may be for a single purpose or for multiple purposes).

Boilerplate: Specific language sections in an appropriation bill which direct, limit or restrict line item expenditures, express legislative intent, and/or require reports.

REVENUE SOURCES

General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP): Unrestricted General Fund revenue available to fund any activity accounted for in the General Fund; unused GF/GP revenue lapses to the General Fund at the end of a fiscal year.

State Restricted (Restricted): State revenue restricted by state law or outside restriction that is available only for specified purposes; at year-end, unused restricted revenue remains in the restricted fund.

Federal Revenue: Federal grant or matchable revenue dedicated to specific programs.

Local Revenue: Revenue from local units of government.

Private Revenue: Revenue from non-government entities: rents, royalties or interest payments, payments from hospitals or individuals, and gifts and bequests.

Interdepartmental Grant (IDG): Revenue or funds received by one state department from another state department (usually for a service provided by the receiving department).

Intradepartmental Transfer (IDT): Transfers or funds being provided from one appropriation unit to another in the same department.

MAJOR STATE FUNDS

Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF): The countercyclical economic and budget stabilization fund; also known as the "rainy day" fund.

School Aid Fund (SAF): A restricted fund; the primary funding source for K-12 schools and Intermediate School Districts (ISDs).

General Fund: The General Fund (funded from taxes and other general revenue) is used to account for the ordinary operations of a governmental unit that are not accounted for in another fund.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has two primary missions. The first is to execute duties as specified by state statute and the Governor, including oversight of the state's veterans programs: state veterans homes in Grand Rapids and Marquette, grants to veterans service organizations, and the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund.

The Department's second mission is to ensure preparedness of the Michigan National Guard to protect the lives and property of Michigan citizens during times of natural disaster and preserve the peace, order, and public safety at the direction of the Governor, and assist the federal government in defending the sovereign interests of the United States when they are threatened or violated.

Full-time equated unclassified positions	7.0	Total full-time equated (FTE) positions not in the state classified service.
Full-time equated classified positions	1,016.0	Total full-time equated (FTE) positions in the state classified service.
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$117,699,400	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.
Total interdepartmental grants/intradepartmental transfers	1,656,800	Total of all grants from other Departments and transfer of funds.
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$116,042,600	Total net amount of all line item gross appropriations less (or minus) interdepartmental grants (IDGs) and intradepartmental transfers (IDTs).
Total federal revenue	49,537,200	Total federal grant or matchable revenue.
Total local revenue	0	Total revenue from local units of government.
Total private revenue	1,355,800	Total private grant revenue.
Total state restricted revenue	27,360,500	State revenue dedicated to a specific fund (other than the General Fund); or revenue earmarked for a specific purpose.
GENERAL FUND/ GENERAL PURPOSE	\$37,789,100	The state's primary operating fund; the portion of the state's General Fund that does not include restricted revenue.

SECTION 102: HEADQUARTERS AND ARMORIES

This appropriation unit includes funding for the basic administrative functions of the Michigan National Guard, the salaries of the Department's unclassified employees, the Challenge Program, and several smaller funding items overseen by the Department.

Full-time equated unclassified positions	7.0	Full-time equated (FTE) positions not in the state classified service.
Full-time equated classified positions	124.0	Full-time equated (FTE) positions in the state classified service.
Headquarters and armories – 83.5 FTE positions	\$9,929,800	Administer Michigan National Guard; manage personnel, facilities, and state/federal financial resources; includes physical operations of 48 National Guard armories. Funding Source(s): Federal 2,617,100 Restricted 350,000 GF/GP 6,962,700
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 213, 301
Human resources optimization user charges	29,500	Human Resources Service Center housed at Department of Civil Service.
door charges		Funding Source(s): GF/GP 29,500
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Unclassified military personnel	660,300	Salaries of Director (Adjutant General of Michigan), Deputy Director for Army National Guard, Deputy Director for Air National Guard, Deputy Director for Veterans Affairs, Legislative Liaison, and Public Information Officer; an additional unclassified position is authorized to be filled at Director's discretion. Funding Source(s): GF/GP 660,300
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Military appeals tribunal	900	Per diem payments/administrative costs of Military Appeals Tribunal (five members appointed by Governor) which has appellate jurisdiction over court martial decisions under Michigan Code of Military Justice. Funding Source(s): GF/GP 900 Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Michigan emergency volunteers	5,000	Operation supplies for statutory organization of military personnel that would be activated if Michigan National Guard was mobilized for service during a national emergency. Funding Source(s): GF/GP 5,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
State active duty	85,100	Authorizes Adjutant General to call up military personnel to state duty to perform unique administrative or maintenance functions. Funding Source(s): Restricted 55,000 GF/GP 30,100
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None

GENERAL FUND/ GENERAL PURPOSE	\$8,437,600	The state's primary operating fund; the portion of the state's General Fund that does not include restricted revenue.	
Parent pay revenue	100,000	From payments made by parents whose children attend the Challenge Program.	
Military family relief fund	600,000	From state income tax check-off box to assist military families with emergency grant funds.	
Private donations	790,800	9 From private individuals or organizations to Challenge Program	
Mackinac Bridge authority	55,000	Reimburse pay/expenses of National Guard members who provide security for annual Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Walk.	
Rental fees	350,000	From armory rental (section 354 of Michigan Military Act).	
DOD-DOA-NGB	4,356,300	From National Guard Bureau (NGB), Department of Army (DOA), U.S. Department of Defense (DOD).	
IDG – human services	406,000	Federal grant for Challenge Program through Michigan Department of Human Services.	
IDG – state police	900,000	Federal grant for Homeland Security program activities through Michigan Department of State Police.	
IDG – challenge grant	250,800	Federal grant for Challenge Program through DCH.	
IDG – community health	100,000	Federal grant for Homeland Security program activities through Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH).	
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$16,346,500	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.	
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None	
Military family relief fund	600,000	Assist military families with emergency grants; revenue from state income tax check-off box Funding Source(s): Restricted 600,000	
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None	
Homeland security	1,000,000	Activities related to Homeland Security program. Funding Source(s): IDG 1,000,000	
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 302, 304	
		Funding Source(s): IDG 656,800 Federal 1,739,200 Private 890,800 GF/GP 749,100	
Challenge program – 40.5 FTE positions	4,035,900	Voluntary boot camp-style program for 16- to 18-year-old high school dropouts run by Department in Battle Creek; two 22-week residential programs per calendar year, followed by 12-month post-residential mentoring phase for graduates; funded 60% federal/40% state; FY 2005-06 budget appropriates about 22% of state share from private funds.	

SECTION 103: MILITARY TRAINING SITES AND SUPPORT FACILITIES

This appropriation unit provides for administration of the five National Guard training sites in the state: Camp Grayling, Fort Custer, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, and the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center. This unit also funds the operations of various logistical support facilities in the state.

Total full-time equated classified positions	200.0	Full-time equated (FTE) positions in the state classified service.
Military training sites and support facilities – 200.0 FTE positions	\$20,009,800	Operate/maintain major training/support facilities for Michigan Army and Air National Guard; 100% for training facility operation/maintenance and 75% for logistical support facilities from U.S. Department of Defense; includes \$1.1 million GF/GP for National Guard Educational Assistance Program. Funding Source(s): Federal 17,471,400 GF/GP 2,538,400
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 212
Military training sites and support facilities test projects	100,000	Costs associated with equipment testing by defense-related companies at state military facilities, primarily Camp Grayling. Funding Source(s): Restricted 100,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$20,109,800	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.
DOD-DOA-NGB	17,471,400	From National Guard Bureau (NGB), Department of Army (DOA), U.S. Department of Defense (DOD).
Test project fees	100,000	Paid by private companies to test equipment at state military facilities.
GENERAL FUND/	\$2,538,400	The state's primary operating fund; the portion of the state's

SECTION 104: DEPARTMENTWIDE APPROPRIATIONS

This appropriation unit includes funds for expenses incurred throughout the Department, special maintenance at National Guard facilities in the state, statutorily-required retirement payments, and two federally-funded programs.

GENERAL FUND/ GENERAL PURPOSE	\$3,348,600	The state's primary operating fund; the portion of the state's General Fund that does not include restricted revenue.
Federal counternarcotic revenue	50,000	From federal agencies in conjunction with counternarcotic assistance provided by National Guard.
DOD-DOA-NGB	7,206,100	From National Guard Bureau (NGB), Department of Army (DOA), U.S. Department of Defense (DOD).
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$10,604,700	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Starbase grant	640,000	Program to expose disadvantaged 6th- to 12th-grade students to real-world math and science applications; located at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Funding Source(s): Federal 640,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Counternarcotic operations	50,000	Counter the flow of illegal drugs in Michigan (helicopters assist in locating marijuana and U.S. Customs Agency support at Port Huron and Detroit border entry points); coordinated with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. Funding Source(s): Federal 50,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Military retirement	2,807,000	Annual payments (\$600) to retired Michigan National Guard personnel and \$500 to surviving spouses of such retirees (1967 PA 150); retirement costs of retired full-time special duty officers. Funding Source(s): GF/GP 2,807,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Special maintenance – federal	5,300,000	Large repairs/structural maintenance not funded with regular maintenance funds at National Guard facilities; supplements special maintenance in Capital Outlay budget. Funding Source(s): Federal 5,300,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Special maintenance – state	151,200	Large repairs/structural maintenance not funded with regular maintenance funds at National Guard facilities; supplements special maintenance in Capital Outlay budget. Funding Source(s): GF/GP 151,200
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None
Departmentwide accounts	ψ1,000,300	insurance, rent, training, and safety supplies. Funding Source(s): Federal 1,266,100 GF/GP 390,400
Departmentwide accounts	\$1,656,500	Travel, equipment, worker's compensation, vehicle liability

SECTION 105: VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Veterans service organizations (VSOs) assist veterans with obtaining benefits—primarily from the U.S. Department of Veterans. Grant funds, provid

American legion	\$886,000	Grant to American Legion. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	996 000
		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	GF/GF	886,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Disabled American veterans	732,400	Grant to Disabled American Veterans. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	732,400
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Marine corps league	336,300	Grant to Marine Corps League. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	336,300
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
American veterans of World War II and Korea	464,800	Grant to AMVETS. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	464,800
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Veterans of foreign wars	886,000	Grant to Veterans of Foreign Wars. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	886,000
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Michigan paralyzed veterans of America	165,700	Grant to Paralyzed Veterans of America. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	165,700
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Purple heart	157,900	Grant to Military Order of the Purple Hea Funding Source(s):	rt. GF/GP	157,900
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Veterans of World War I	100	Placeholder appropriation for Veterans of Funding Source(s):	f World War GF/GP	· I. 100
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Polish legion of American veterans	41,200	Grant to Polish Legion of American Veter Funding Source(s):	ans. GF/GP	41,200
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Jewish veterans of America	41,200	Grant to Jewish War Veterans. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	41,200
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
State of Michigan council Vietnam veterans of America	159,500	Grant to Vietnam Veterans of America. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	159,500
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		

GENERAL FUND/ GENERAL PURPOSE	\$3,912,300	The state's primary operating fund; to General Fund that does not include r		
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$3,912,300	300 Total of all applicable line item appropriations.		
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 501		
Catholic war veterans	41,200	Grant to Catholic War Veterans. Funding Source(s):	GF/GP	41,200

SECTION 106: GRAND RAPIDS VETERANS' HOME

The Grand Rapids Veterans' Home was established by 1885 PA 152 to provide care for aged and disabled veterans. Later amendments to statute extended admission eligibility to widows, widowers, spouses, former spouses, and parents of state veterans. The home provides three levels of care: domiciliary, nursing, and special needs. The facility is governed by a Board of Managers (with oversight of both state veterans homes) consisting of seven members appointed by the Governor.

Full-time equated classified positions	517.0	Full-time equated (FTE) positions in the state classified service.	
Grand Rapids veterans' home – 517.0 FTE positions	\$45,416,700	Operate 755-bed Grand Rapids Veterans' Home. Funding Source(s): Federal 15,322,500 Restricted 16,041,400 GF/GP 14,052,800	
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 601, 602	
Board of managers	415,000	Facility improvements and other purposes benefiting home's residents, as directed by Board of Managers. Funding Source(s): Private 340,000 Restricted 75,000	
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 603	
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$45,831,700	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.	
DVA-VHA	14,191,900	Per diem payments from Veterans Health Administration (VHA), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number and level of care of eligible veterans at the home.	
HHS, Medicaid	381,200	From U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through Medicaid reimbursement payments.	
HHS, Medicare	749,400	From HHS through Medicare reimbursement payments.	
Private – veterans' home post and posthumous funds	340,000	Specified funds receive money from private donations and estates of residents.	
Income and assessments	16,006,400	Received from residents based on ability to pay.	
Military family relief fund	75,000	Revenue from state income tax check-off box to assist military families with emergency grant funds.	
Loggo rovonuo	35,000	From a third-party company that performs physical therapy	
Lease revenue	00,000	services at the home.	

SECTION 107: D.J. JACOBETTI VETERANS' HOME

The D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home in Marquette was established in 1981 to provide care to aged and disabled veterans in the Upper Peninsula. Admission eligibility is also extended to widows, widowers, spouses, former spouses, and parents of state veterans. The home provides three levels of care: domiciliary, nursing, and special needs. The facility is governed by a Board of Managers (with oversight of both state veterans homes) consisting of seven members who are appointed by the Governor.

Full-time equated classified positions	159.0	Full-time equated (FTE) positions in the state classified service.		
D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home – 159.0 FTE positions	\$14,371,300	Operate 241-bed D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home. Funding Source(s): Federal 4,716,900 Restricted 4,840,400 GF/GP 4,814,000		
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 601, 602		
Board of managers	200,000	Facility improvements and other purposes benefiting the home's residents, as directed by Board of Managers. Funding Source(s): Private 125,000 Restricted 75,000		
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 603		
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$14,571,300	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.		
		Per diem payments from Veterans Health Administration (VHA), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number and level of care of eligible veterans.		
DVA-VHA	4,262,100	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number		
DVA-VHA HHS, Medicaid	4,262,100 87,700	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number		
	87,700	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number and level of care of eligible veterans. From U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)		
HHS, Medicaid	87,700	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number and level of care of eligible veterans. From U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through Medicaid reimbursement payments.		
HHS, Medicaid HHS, Medicare Private – veterans' home post	87,700 367,100	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number and level of care of eligible veterans. From U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through Medicaid reimbursement payments. From HHS through Medicare reimbursement payments. Specified funds receive money from private donations and		
HHS, Medicaid HHS, Medicare Private – veterans' home post and posthumous funds	87,700 367,100 125,000 75,000	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number and level of care of eligible veterans. From U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through Medicaid reimbursement payments. From HHS through Medicare reimbursement payments. Specified funds receive money from private donations and estates of residents, respectively. Revenue from state income tax check-off box to assist military		

SECTION 108: VETERANS' AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

In 1997, the Department was reorganized to place greater emphasis on the various veterans' programs it oversees. As part of this reorganization, Veterans' Affairs Directorate was established to oversee these responsibilities in a coordinated manner.

Public Act 9 of 1946 established the \$50.0 million Michigan Veterans' Trust Fund. The majority of the earnings from the trust fund are used for the Emergency Grant Program, which provides grants to veterans in temporary financial difficulty. Earnings are also used for the Tuition Grant Program, which provides college tuition for the children of veterans killed or disabled in the line of duty pursuant to 1935 PA 245, as well as the administrative costs of the fund. The fund is overseen by a board of seven members appointed by the Governor. The State Constitution was amended in 1996 to require approval of the trust fund board for any expenditures or transfers from the fund.

Full-time equated classified positions	16.0	Full-time equated (FTE) positions in the state classified service.		
Veterans' affairs directorate administration – 3.0 FTE	\$316,300	Operations; includes \$50,000 for county veterans counselor training.		
positions		Funding Source(s): GF/GP 316,300		
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 704		
Veterans' trust fund administration – 13.0 FTE	1,141,100	State-level administrative costs of Emergency Grant and Tuition Grant Programs funded by Veterans Trust Fund.		
positions		Funding Source(s): Restricted 1,141,100		
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): None		
Veterans' trust fund grants	3,746,500	Emergency Grant and Tuition Grant Programs; includes administrative costs of county committees that distribute emergency grants.		
		Funding Source(s): Restricted 3,746,500		
		Related Boilerplate Section(s): 703, 705		
GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$5,203,900	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.		
Michigan veterans' trust fund	4,887,600	Investment earnings from the principal of the trust fund.		
GENERAL FUND/ GENERAL PURPOSE	\$316,300	The state's primary operating fund; the portion of the state's General Fund that does not include restricted revenue.		

SECTION 109: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Department of Information Technology (DIT) is responsible for managing the state's information technology resources. This appropriation unit consolidates funds associated with the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs' information technology functions, to be passed through to DIT.

Information technology services \$1,119,200 Information technology services and projects provided by DIT. and projects Funding Source(s):

Federal 414,000 Restricted

336,100 GF/GP 369,100

Related Boilerplate Section(s): 221, 223

GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$1,119,200	Total of all applicable line item appropriations.
DOD-DOA-NGB	109,100	From National Guard Bureau (NGB), Department of Army (DOA), U.S. Department of Defense (DOD).
DVA-VHA	296,300	Per diem payments from Veterans Health Administration (VHA), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), based on number and level of care of eligible veterans at state's veterans homes.
HHS, Medicare	8,600	Received by the two veterans homes from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through Medicare reimbursement payments.
Income and assessments	336,100	From state veterans home residents based on ability to pay.
GENERAL FUND/ GENERAL PURPOSE	\$369,100	The state's primary operating fund; the portion of the state's General Fund that does not include restricted revenue.

BOILERPLATE SECTION INFORMATION

Sec. 201. Payments to Locals

Itemizes payments to locals from funds appropriated.

Sec. 202. Management and Budget Act

Subjects appropriations to Management and Budget Act.

Sec. 203. Terms and Acronyms

Defines various terms and acronyms used in act.

Sec. 204. Department of Civil Service 1% Charge

Provides for payment of constitutionally-authorized 1% charge to Department of Civil Service.

Sec. 205. State Classified Service Hiring Freeze

Imposes hiring freeze on state classified civil service; exempts internal transfers and provides for other exceptions.

Sec. 207. Privatization Plans

Requires submission of project plan to Legislature 60 days before beginning any effort to privatize.

Sec. 208. Reporting Via Internet

Directs Department to use Internet for reporting requirements.

Sec. 209. American Goods and Services

Prohibits purchase of foreign goods and services if comparably priced American goods and services are available.

Sec. 210. Deprived and Depressed Communities

Requires reasonable steps be taken to ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for and perform state contracts.

Sec. 211. Records Retention

Directs Department to follow federal guidelines and state laws regarding retention of records.

Sec. 212. National Guard Education Assistance Program

Sets expenditure limit of \$1.1 million for program; allows 50% tuition reimbursement for National Guard members up to \$2,000 per year; provides for program administration by Department; authorizes expenditures for program promotion and recruitment efforts.

Sec. 213. Armory Closure or Consolidation

Requires Department to consult with appropriations subcommittees regarding projected closing or consolidation of any National Guard armories.

Sec. 214. Military Cemeteries

States legislative intent that, should necessary legislation be enacted and funds become available, funds be appropriated for state military cemeteries in Crawford and Dickinson Counties.

Sec. 221. Information Technology (IT) – User Fees

Directs Department to pay user fees to DIT subject to an interagency agreement.

Sec. 223. Information Technology - Work Projects

Allows appropriations for IT to be designated as work projects.

Sec. 225. Out of State Travel Limitations

Prohibits out-of-state travel except when certain conditions apply.

Sec. 301. Armory Rental Fee

Allows Department to charge a reasonable fee for rental of an armory.

Sec. 302. Challenge Program - Revenue Sources

Provides private donations to Challenge Program are not lapsed to General Fund at close of fiscal year; encourages Department to identify alternative sources of revenue to replace GF/GP; allows Department to charge fee for program participants from families with incomes that exceed 200% of federal poverty guidelines.

Sec. 304. Challenge Program - Partnership With DHS

Directs Department to partner with Department of Human Services (DHS) to identify youth for Challenge Program; grants such youth priority for enrollment in program.

Sec. 501. Grant to Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs)

Restricts use of grant funds to costs related to accredited veterans service advocacy officers and support and managerial staff; specifies requirements for receipt of grant funds by VSOs; sets requirements for grant to a newly-founded VSO; requires an accounting of expenditures, budget request, and other information be submitted by each VSO to Department and Legislature; requires VSOs to work with Department to maximize amount of federal benefits available to veterans and to increase services to veterans.

Sec. 601. Veterans and Veterans' Families

Prohibits use of veterans homes appropriations for any purpose other than veterans and veterans' families.

Sec. 602. Veterans Homes Annual Report

Requires annual report containing specified information regarding the two veterans homes.

Sec. 603. Board of Managers Appropriations

Allows appropriations for Board of Managers of veterans homes to be expended for facility improvements at the homes and other purposes benefiting veterans.

Sec. 703. Veterans' Trust Fund Annual Report

Requires annual report on emergency and tuition grants provided from Veterans' Trust Fund and other fundrelated information.

Sec. 704. County Veterans Counselor Training

Directs Veterans Affairs Directorate to assist county veterans counselors in obtaining training.

Sec. 705. Veterans' Trust Fund Survivors Tuition Program

States legislative intent to enact legislation prior to FY 2005-06 appropriations bill for a dedicated funding source for the Veterans Survivors Tuition Program; states legislative intent to only expend interest earned by Veterans' Trust Fund and to earmark funds each year to fund the corpus until the Veterans' Trust Fund reaches the original \$50.0 million amount.

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