

Passed 12-4

Senator Marklein
Representative Born

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Omnibus Motion

Motion:

Move to adopt the following items:

1. *General Fund Transfer to the State Veterans Homes and Master Plan for King [Paper #831]*. Provide \$2,500,000 GPR annually in the Committee's program supplements appropriation to supplement the program revenue account for the state veterans homes, as needed, contingent upon a request from the Department and approval of the Committee, and modify the statutory authorization for the PR appropriation to reflect the receipt of any transfer from the GPR program supplements appropriation. Require DVA to contract with a vendor to study the State Veterans Home at King campus during the 2023-25 biennium, to be funded from the Department's general administration appropriation, to be completed by January 1, 2025.

2. *Veterans Service Office Grants [Paper #833]*. Provide \$330,200 SEG annually to increase funding for grants to county and tribal veterans service offices by 25% and modify the statutory distribution formulas accordingly. Increase the GPR appropriation for making a transfer to the veterans trust fund by \$330,200 GPR annually to support this increase in veterans trust fund expenditures.

3. *Chippewa Falls Operations Contract [LFB Summary Page 677, #5]*. Provide \$1,300,000 PR annually to fund increases in the cost of the Department's contract for the operation of the Chippewa Fall Veterans Home.

4. *Union Grove State Veterans Home Supplies and Services [LFB Summary Page 677, #6]*. Provide \$210,000 PR annually to increase the supplies and services budget at the Union Grove State Veterans Home, for increasing costs for custodial supplies, lawn care, snow removal, and specialty tradesmen.

5. *State Veterans Cemetery Operations [LFB Summary Page 680, #15]*. Provide \$425,000 SEG in 2023-24 and \$355,000 SEG in 2024-25 for equipment replacement at the three state veterans cemeteries and for the purchase of new equipment for expanded operations at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Cemetery. Increase GPR appropriation for making a transfer to the veterans trust fund by \$425,000 GPR in 2023-24 and \$355,000 GPR in 2024-25 to support this increase in veterans trust fund expenditures.

6. *Local Government Grants for Fire and Emergency Medical Services Provided at the*

State Veterans Homes. Increase the maximum amount in total grants that the Department of Veterans Affairs may make to local governments for providing fire and emergency medical services to the state veterans homes from \$300,000 per biennium to \$600,000 per biennium. Provide \$150,000 PR annually in the appropriation for making these grants to reflect this change. Specify that the amounts distributed under the grant program cannot factor in the calculation of payments made under the payments for municipal services program. Include any fire district in the list of eligible recipients for the grant.

7. *Grant for an Organization Promoting U.S.S. Wisconsin.* Authorize DVA to award a one-time grant in 2023-24 from the GPR appropriation for Wisconsin Veterans Museum operations in an amount not to exceed \$16,540 to a private nonprofit organization or a nonstock corporation that is a nonprofit corporation whose sole purpose is to promote and support recognition of the Columbia-class submarine U.S.S. Wisconsin.

8. *Delete Certain Vacant Positions.* Delete vacant positions in the Department's appropriation for administration of loans and aids to veterans, as follows: (a) 0.54 SEG financial program supervisor; (b) 0.72 SEG financial specialist-advanced; and (c) 0.67 SEG policy initiatives advisor-administrative.

[Change to Base: \$3,255,200 GPR, \$1,660,000 PR, \$755,200 SEG with -1.93 SEG positions for 2023-24; \$3,185,200 GPR, \$1,660,000 PR, 685,200 SEG, with -1.93 SEG positions for 2024-25]