

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veteran Grant Jobs Program
[LFB Paper #703]

Motion:

Move to provide \$500,000 SEG of one-time funding from the veterans trust fund to the Wisconsin Technical College System in 2016-17 to create a veteran grant jobs pilot program. Require that the System Board identify \$500,000 in matching funds for the grants. Specify that no new state support can be provided for the grants, other than the \$500,000 SEG appropriation, and that any unencumbered funds remaining in the appropriation on June 30, 2017, must be transferred to the veterans trust fund.

Require that the System Board create a competitive grant process to distribute grants to districts that request funding to support programs or services for veterans. Specify that relevant programs could include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) recruiting, training, or graduating veterans in high demand fields, as identified by the Department of Workforce Development; (b) providing specialized support services for veterans, including career pathway planning, case management, advising by experts in military education related to obtaining credit for prior learning, early alert interventions, and referrals to or subcontracting with external organizations to provide specialized support services; (c) collaborations with employers; (d) work-based learning activities, such as internships, service learning, mentoring, job coaching, and job shadowing; (e) specialized instructional methodologies that have been demonstrated to be helpful for veterans to enhance student retention and completion; (f) creating, expanding, or implementing innovative methods that provide direct services to veterans, with a goal to support students through specific completion points such as completion of courses, semesters, programs, or certificates; (g) counseling or career services, which may include personal, educational, and career development support as well as proactive behavior and crisis intervention services; (h) targeted services based on student need such as financial literacy, career assessment and planning services, career workshops, computer skills and study skills workshops, veterans peer support group, or tutoring or supplemental instruction; (i) accommodation and transition services, including assistive technology such as adaptive equipment, instructional aids and devices and related services for injured veterans; or (j) providing access or referrals to emergency dependent care and transportation assistance.

Specify that the System Board would be required to submit a report to the Joint Committee on Finance by September 1, 2017, including the following information: (a) the colleges that received grant funding and the amount of funding received by each; (b) the programs or services funded through the grant program; (c) the total number of veterans supported through the program; and (d) the amount of unencumbered funds, if any, transferred to the general fund.

Approve Alternatives A3 and B3 in LFB Paper #703.

Note:

The motion would delete the grant for the Global Entrepreneurship Collective, Inc., proposed in the bill. Instead, \$500,000 SEG would be provided in a grant to the Wisconsin Technical College System Board.

[Change to Bill: -\$500,000 GPR and \$500,000 SEG]