

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1025

That the Senate recede from its amendments as printed on pages 1563-1565 of the House Journal and pages 1331-1333 of the Senate Journal and that Engrossed House Bill No. 1025 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 2, remove "and"

Page 1, line 2, after "report" insert "; and to provide an exemption"

Page 1, replace lines 12 through 20 with:

"Veterans' affairs	\$1,168,015	\$179,614	\$1,347,629
State approving agency	271,998	13,660	285,658
Grants - transportation program	1,719,520	(919,520)	800,000
Transport vans	18,600	200	18,800
Service dogs	50,000	0	50,000
Veterans' home cemetery	<u>0</u>	<u>291,500</u>	<u>291,500</u>
Total all funds	\$3,228,133	(\$434,546)	\$2,793,587
Less estimated income	<u>2,091,571</u>	<u>(714,414)</u>	<u>1,377,157</u>
Total general fund	\$1,136,562	\$279,868	\$1,416,430
Full-time equivalent positions	7.00	0.00	7.00"

Page 2, replace lines 2 through 5 with:

"Transport vans	\$18,600	\$0
Grant database enhancements	0	7,500
Temporary loan and grant position	0	140,000
Veterans' home cemetery	<u>0</u>	<u>291,500</u>
Total all funds	\$18,600	\$439,000
Less estimated income	<u>0</u>	<u>291,500</u>
Total general fund	\$18,600	\$147,500"

Page 2, after line 9, insert:

**"SECTION 3. EXEMPTION.** The amount of \$50,000 appropriated for the posttraumatic stress disorder service dogs program in section 1 of chapter 49 of the 2017 Session Laws is not subject to section 54-44.1-11 and any unexpended funds from this program are available for the program during the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021.

**SECTION 4. ESTIMATED INCOME - VETERANS' HOME CEMETERY FUNDING.** The estimated income line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$291,500, of which \$265,000 is from federal funds and \$26,500 is from the Melvin Norgard memorial fund, for the purpose of repairing and maintaining the cemetery located on the veterans' home campus during the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. This funding is considered a one-time funding item."

Renumber accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

**House Bill No. 1025 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - Conference Committee Action**

	Base Budget	House Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	Senate Version	Comparison to Senate
Veterans' affairs	\$1,168,015	\$1,322,258	\$25,371	\$1,347,629	\$1,359,423	(\$11,794)
State approving agency	271,998	284,501	1,157	285,658	285,658	
Grants - Transportation program	1,719,520	800,000		800,000	800,000	
Transport vans	18,600	18,800		18,800	40,000	(21,200)
Service dogs	50,000	50,000		50,000	50,000	
Veterans' home cemetery			291,500	291,500	291,500	
<b>Total all funds</b>	<b>\$3,228,133</b>	<b>\$2,475,559</b>	<b>\$318,028</b>	<b>\$2,793,587</b>	<b>\$2,826,581</b>	<b>(\$32,994)</b>
Less estimated income	2,091,571	1,084,500	292,657	1,377,157	1,377,157	0
General fund	\$1,136,562	\$1,391,059	\$25,371	\$1,416,430	\$1,449,424	(\$32,994)
FTE	7.00	7.00	0.00	7.00	8.00	(1.00)

**Department 321 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - Detail of Conference Committee Changes**

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases <sup>1</sup>	Adds Funding for Veteran Benefit Specialist Training <sup>2</sup>	Adds One-Time Funding for a Cemetery Program <sup>3</sup>	Total Conference Committee Changes
Veterans' affairs	\$7,071	\$18,300		\$25,371
State approving agency	1,157			1,157
Grants - Transportation program				
Transport vans				
Service dogs				
Veterans' home cemetery			\$291,500	291,500
<b>Total all funds</b>	<b>\$8,228</b>	<b>\$18,300</b>	<b>\$291,500</b>	<b>\$318,028</b>
Less estimated income	1,157	0	291,500	292,657
General fund	\$7,071	\$18,300	\$0	\$25,371
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<sup>1</sup> Funding of \$8,228, of which \$7,071 is from the general fund and \$1,157 is from federal funds, is added for 2019-21 biennium salary increases of 2 percent, with a minimum monthly increase of \$120 and a maximum monthly increase of \$200, on July 1, 2019, and 2.5 percent on July 1, 2020. This provides a total of \$36,773 for state employee salary increases, of which \$30,631 is from the general fund and \$6,142 is from federal funds, the same as provided by the Senate. The House approved 2019-21 biennium salary increases of 2 percent per year and provided a total of \$28,545 for state employee salary increases, of which \$23,560 is from the general fund and \$4,985 is from federal funds.

<sup>2</sup> Funding of \$18,300 from the general fund is added for veteran benefit specialist training, the same as provided by the Senate. The House did not provide funding for this training.

<sup>3</sup> One-time funding of \$291,500 is added for a Veterans' Home cemetery program, of which \$265,000 is from federal funds and \$26,500 is from the Melvin Norgard memorial fund, for repairing and maintaining the Veterans' Home cemetery, the same as provided by the Senate. The House did not provide funding for this program.

The Senate removed \$140,000 of one-time funding from the general fund approved by the House for a temporary loan and grant position and added \$151,794 from the general fund for 1 FTE loan and grants position. The Conference Committee approved \$140,000 of one-time funding from the general fund for the temporary position, but did not add the 1 FTE loan and grants position, the same as the House.

The Senate added \$21,200 from the general fund to provide a total appropriation of \$40,000 for purchasing two transport vans. The Conference Committee provided \$18,800 from the general fund for the purchase of one transport van, the same as the House.

This amendment also:

- Adds a section allowing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to continue unexpended 2017-19 funding for the posttraumatic stress disorder service dog program into the 2019-21 biennium, the same as the Senate.
- Adds a section identifying \$291,500 of one-time funding, of which \$265,000 is from federal funds and \$26,500 is from the Melvin Norgard memorial fund, for repairs and maintenance at the cemetery located on the Veterans' Home campus during the 2019-21 biennium. This section was included by the Senate.