

**Department of Veterans Affairs
Budget No. 321
House Bill Nos. 1007, 1014**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2007-09 executive budget (bills as introduced)	6.00	\$776,382	\$0	\$776,382
2007-09 legislative appropriations	7.00	866,772¹		866,772
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	1.00	\$90,390	\$0	\$90,390
Legislative increase (decrease) to 2005-07 appropriations	1.00	\$213,104	\$0	\$213,104

¹This amount includes \$59,606 of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing general fund appropriation is \$807,166.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS

Salaries and Wages

The legislative action affecting the recommended appropriation for the Department of Veterans Affairs is in accordance with legislative salary and fringe benefits guidelines as contained in Senate Bill No. 2189.

	Major Items			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Reduced funding recommended in the executive budget relating to retiree health credit contributions		(\$576)		(\$576)
Added funding for a women veterans coordinator position	1.00	90,966		90,966
Total	1.00	\$90,390	\$0	\$90,390

FTE Changes

The 2007-09 legislative appropriation includes funding for 7 FTE positions, an increase of 1 FTE position from the executive recommendation and the 2005-07 biennium authorized level of 6 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly authorized 1 FTE women veterans coordinator position.

One-Time Funding

In Section 5 of House Bill No. 1007, the Legislative Assembly identified the general fund appropriation for one-time funding of \$59,606 for a secure filing system (\$38,250) and electronic storing and retrieving system for veterans' discharge papers (\$21,356). This amount is not to be considered part of the agency's base budget for preparing the 2009-11 executive budget and the Department of Veterans Affairs is to report to the Appropriations Committees during the 2009 legislative session on the use of this funding.

Related Legislation

Senate Bill No. 2142 - This bill provides that a veteran or surviving spouse of a veteran may receive additional loans from the **veterans' aid fund** provided that the total value of the loans does not exceed \$5,000. Currently additional loans may not be issued until the previous loan is repaid.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 3063 - This resolution provides for a Legislative Council study of the **delivery and funding of veterans' services** by the state and counties.