

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with Conference Committee Amendments****ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1007**

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the veterans' home  
2 and department of veterans' affairs; to provide for a performance audit of the department of  
3 veterans' affairs and the administrative committee on veterans' affairs; to provide for additional  
4 skilled nursing care bed capacity; to allow for line item transfers; to provide for a legislative  
5 council study; to provide reports to the budget section; and to declare an emergency.

**6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

7 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the  
8 funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state  
9 treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and  
10 other income, to the veterans' home and the department of veterans' affairs for the purpose of  
11 defraying their expenses, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2003, and ending June 30, 2005,  
12 as follows:

## 13 Subdivision 1.

14	VETERANS' HOME	
15	Salaries and wages	\$7,975,737
16	Operating expenses	2,711,704
17	Capital assets	<u>329,754</u>
18	Total all funds	\$11,017,195
19	Less estimated income	<u>7,971,123</u>
20	Total general fund appropriation	\$3,046,072

## 21 Subdivision 2.

22	VETERANS' AFFAIRS	
23	Total all funds	\$524,292
24	Less estimated income	<u>43,494</u>

1	Total general fund appropriation	\$480,798
2	Grand total general fund appropriation section 1 of H.B. 1007	\$3,526,870
3	Grand total special funds appropriation section 1 of H.B. 1007	\$8,014,617
4	Grand total all funds appropriation section 1 of H.B. 1007	\$11,541,487

5           **SECTION 2. VETERANS' POSTWAR TRUST FUND - REPORT.** The department of  
6 veterans' affairs shall report on the use of moneys in the veterans' postwar trust fund to the  
7 appropriations committees of the fifty-ninth legislative assembly. The report must be presented  
8 during the agency's budget presentation.

9           **SECTION 3. PERFORMANCE AUDIT - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS**  
10 **AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.** The state auditor shall  
11 conduct a performance audit of the department of veterans' affairs and the administrative  
12 committee on veterans' affairs during the biennium beginning July 1, 2003, and ending  
13 June 30, 2005. The results of the performance audit must be presented to the legislative audit  
14 and fiscal review committee by July 1, 2004, and filed with the appropriations committees  
15 during the fifty-ninth legislative assembly.

16           **SECTION 4. VETERANS' HOME GOVERNING BOARD - STATUS REPORTS -**  
17 **STRATEGIC PLAN - BUDGET SECTION.** A representative of the veterans' home governing  
18 board shall periodically report to the budget section on the status of the board's progress in  
19 developing and implementing a strategic plan for the veterans' home during the 2003-04  
20 interim.

21           **SECTION 5. FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS - AUTHORIZATION.** The  
22 governing board of the veterans' home may employ two new full-time equivalent employee  
23 positions for the veterans' home before June 30, 2003, as needed, subject to the availability of  
24 funds.

25           **SECTION 6. 2001-03 BIENNIUM LINE ITEM TRANSFERS - AUTHORIZATION.**  
26 Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, the veterans' home may transfer up to \$150,000 of  
27 appropriation authority between line items for the 2001-03 biennium to implement changes in  
28 technology and telecommunications, with the approval of the office of management and budget.  
29 Any line item transfers must be reported to the budget section.

30           **SECTION 7. SKILLED NURSING CARE BED PURCHASE - TRANSFER.**  
31 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 23 of chapter 431 of the 2001 Session Laws which

1 require a reduction in licensed nursing facility bed capacity, the department of human services  
2 shall purchase eight skilled nursing care beds after April 14, 2003, from funding available in  
3 section 23 of chapter 431 of the 2001 Session Laws and transfer the purchased beds to the  
4 veterans' home in Lisbon.

5 **SECTION 8. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - NURSING HOME RATE CLASS**

6 **LIMITS.** The legislative council shall consider studying, during the 2003-04 interim, the  
7 feasibility and desirability of establishing a separate payment rate class for the veterans' home  
8 and the related effect on the state's general fund and the long-term care industry in North  
9 Dakota. The study, if conducted, may be done in conjunction with the long-term care  
10 continuum study included in 2003 Senate Bill No. 2012. The legislative council shall report its  
11 findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the  
12 recommendations, to the fifty-ninth legislative assembly.

13 **SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the  
14 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$96,924, or so much  
15 of the sum as may be necessary, and \$205,586 of federal funds to the department of human  
16 services for the purpose of medicaid reimbursement to the veterans' home relating to the  
17 addition of nursing home beds, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2003, and ending June 30,  
18 2005.

19 **SECTION 10. EMERGENCY.** Sections 5, 6, and 7 of this Act are declared to be an  
20 emergency measure.