

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Senate Amendments
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1007**

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the veterans' home;
2 to provide for a legislative management study; and to provide for a report.

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

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds
5 as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state
6 treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and
7 other income, to the veterans' home for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the veterans'
8 home, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, as follows:

| | <u>Base Level</u> | <u>Adjustments or Enhancements</u> | <u>Appropriation</u> | |
|----|--------------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------|
| 10 | | | | |
| 11 | Salaries and wages | \$19,209,879 | \$849,837 | \$20,059,716 |
| 12 | Operating expenses | 5,539,333 | 538,842 | 6,078,175 |
| 13 | Capital assets | <u>407,271</u> | <u>2,437,811</u> | <u>2,845,082</u> |
| 14 | Total all funds | \$25,156,483 | \$3,826,490 | \$28,982,973 |
| 15 | Less estimated income | <u>19,375,840</u> | <u>3,597,134</u> | <u>22,972,974</u> |
| 16 | Total general fund | \$5,780,643 | \$229,356 | \$6,009,999 |
| 17 | Full-time equivalent positions | 114.79 | 0.00 | 114.79 |

18 **SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO**

19 **SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** The following amounts reflect the one-time funding
20 items approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly for the 2021-23 biennium and the
21 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

| | <u>One-Time Funding Description</u> | <u>2021-23</u> | <u>2023-25</u> |
|----|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 22 | | | |
| 23 | Indoor parking and storage | \$0 | \$750,000 |
| 24 | Parking lot and road repairs | 0 | 1,100,000 |

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Equipment | 16,700 | 125,750 |
| 2 | Thermostat replacements | 131,500 | 478,930 |
| 3 | Resident absences | 25,000 | 0 |
| 4 | Memorial garden project | 200,000 | 0 |
| 5 | COVID-19 pandemic costs | <u>1,300,000</u> | <u>0</u> |
| 6 | Total all funds | \$1,673,200 | \$2,454,680 |
| 7 | Less estimated income | <u>1,648,200</u> | <u>2,454,680</u> |
| 8 | Total general fund | \$25,000 | \$0 |

9 The 2023-25 biennium one-time funding amounts are not a part of the entity's base budget
10 for the 2025-27 biennium. The veterans' home shall report to the appropriations committees of
11 the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on the use of this one-time funding for the biennium
12 beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

13 **SECTION 3. ESTIMATED INCOME - SOLDIERS' HOME FUND - ADMINISTRATOR**

14 **HOUSING STIPEND.** The estimated income line item in section 1 of this Act includes the sum
15 of \$48,000 from the soldiers' home fund for the purpose of providing a \$2,000 monthly housing
16 stipend to the veterans' home administrator for housing costs off the veterans' home campus.

17 **SECTION 4. ESTIMATED INCOME - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**

18 **THERMOSTAT REPLACEMENTS.** The estimated income line item in section 1 of this Act
19 includes the sum of \$478,930 from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund for
20 the purpose of a thermostat and air handling unit replacement project.

21 **SECTION 5. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - VETERANS' HOME**

22 **GOVERNANCE.** During the 2023-24 interim, the legislative management shall consider
23 studying current and future governance needs of the veterans' home. The study must include a
24 review of the report provided in section 6 of this Act. The study must consider the current duties
25 and responsibilities of the administrative committee on veterans' affairs, the veterans' home
26 governing board, and the veterans' home administrator and any organizational changes
27 necessary to provide services for veterans and veterans' spouses, increase resident census at
28 the veterans' home, accomplish goals included in the veterans' home strategic plan, and ensure
29 the long-term viability of the veterans' home. The legislative management shall report its
30 findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the
31 recommendations, to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

1 **SECTION 6. VETERANS' HOME STRATEGIC PLAN - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT**

2 **REPORT - REPORT TO SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** The veterans' home shall
3 report to the legislative management by January 1, 2024, regarding the status of implementing
4 recommendations included in the veterans' home strategic plan as provided for in section 1 of
5 chapter 7 of the 2019 Session Laws. The veterans' home shall forward a copy of the report to
6 the governor and each United States senator and congressman representing North Dakota. The
7 veterans' home shall provide an updated report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-
8 ninth legislative assembly, the governor, and each United States senator and congressman
9 representing North Dakota during the 2025 legislative session. The report must include
10 information on the status and progress of:

- 11 1. The veterans' home current and future planned marketing initiative outcomes,
12 including:
 - 13 a. Marketing efforts to community-based outpatient clinics throughout the state and
14 how the veterans' home can increase community-based services to veterans
15 statewide; and
 - 16 b. How the agency will increase statewide awareness of the veterans' home,
17 including promoting services available to veterans and veterans' spouses;
- 18 2. Implementation of minimum data set and documentation audit recommendations to
19 increase operational efficiencies, census, and staffing;
- 20 3. The veterans' home and each United States senator and congressman representing
21 North Dakota collaborating to negotiate with the United States department of veterans
22 affairs on the forgiveness of approximately \$15,700,000 of federal funding used in the
23 construction of the veterans' home and the other options regarding federal funding
24 concerns;
- 25 4. Evaluating options to adjust basic care and skilled care reimbursement rates to more
26 adequately compensate for services provided to veterans and veterans' spouses;
- 27 5. The feasibility of providing collaborative hospice care at the veterans' home and the
28 creation of a business plan including advantages, disadvantages, and potential costs
29 and revenue;

- 1 6. The feasibility of providing assisted and independent living care at the veterans' home
- 2 and the creation of a business plan including advantages, disadvantages, and
- 3 potential costs and revenue;
- 4 7. The feasibility of providing adult day care at the veterans' home and the creation of a
- 5 business plan including advantages, disadvantages, and potential costs and revenue;
- 6 8. The feasibility of providing outpatient services at the veterans' home and the creation
- 7 of a business plan including advantages, disadvantages, and potential costs and
- 8 revenue;
- 9 9. The feasibility of engaging in collaborative planning and work efforts with competing
- 10 senior living providers in areas surrounding the veterans' home and the feasibility of
- 11 contracting with a third party to operate the veterans' home; and
- 12 10. The final strategic plan submitted by the veterans' home third-party consultant.