

**Veterans Home
Budget No. 313
House Bill Nos. 1007, 1014, Senate Bill No. 2418**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2007-09 executive budget (bills as introduced)	90.97	\$4,050,174	\$8,821,090	\$12,871,264
2007-09 legislative appropriations	92.37	4,125,266¹	29,914,552	34,039,818
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	1.40	\$75,092	\$21,093,462	\$21,168,554
Legislative increase (decrease) to 2005-07 appropriations	1.40	(\$203,826)	\$22,939,719	\$22,735,893

¹This amount includes \$265,700 of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing general fund appropriation is \$3,859,566.

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

Salaries and Wages

The legislative action affecting the recommended appropriation for the Veterans Home 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		(\$2,212)	(\$5,194)	(\$7,406)
Provided funding from the permanent oil tax trust fund (\$6,483,226), federal funds (\$12,040,278), and from revenue bonds (\$2,575,152) for construction of a new 150-bed Veterans Home (Senate Bill No. 2418)			21,098,656	21,098,656
Removed funding for replacement furniture for resident rooms		(120,000)		(120,000)
Removed funding to replace an elevator at the existing Veterans Home		(120,000)		(120,000)
Added funding for repairs and maintenance to address Life Safety Code issues at the existing Veterans Home facility until the new facility can be completed (\$165,700) and for a preplanning document for the new facility (\$100,000) (emergency measure)		265,700		265,700
Provided funding for 1.4 FTE night watchman positions	1.40	101,604		101,604
Removed funding for developing a long-term plan for the Veterans Home		(50,000)		(50,000)
Total	1.40	\$75,092	\$21,093,462	\$21,168,554

FTE Changes

The 2007-09 legislative appropriation includes funding for 92.37 FTE positions, an increase of 1.4 FTE positions from the executive recommendation and the 2005-07 authorized level of 90.97. The Legislative Assembly added 1.4 FTE night watchman positions for the Veterans Home.

One-Time Funding

In Section 5 of House Bill No. 1007, the Legislative Assembly identified the general fund appropriation for one-time funding of \$265,700 for life safety improvements at the existing Veterans Home (\$165,700) and preplanning costs for the new Veterans Home (\$100,000). This amount is not to be considered part of the agency's base budget for preparing the 2009-11 executive budget and the Veterans Home is to report to the Appropriations Committees during the 2009 legislative session on the use of this funding. In addition, Senate Bill No. 2418 includes one-time funding of \$6,483,226 from the permanent oil tax trust fund for the new Veterans Home facility.

Other Sections in Bill

Preplanning funds - Section 4 of the bill provides that the \$100,000 appropriated for preplanning costs for the new Veterans Home be included as part of the overall cost of the construction project and the Veterans Home is to reimburse the general fund the \$100,000 prior to June 30, 2009, from federal matching funds available for this project.

Extraordinary repairs - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$31,200 from special funds for lift station pumps (\$8,000) and replacement tile and carpeting (\$23,200).

Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1425 - This bill amends North Dakota Century Code Section 37-15-14 to remove the requirement that the Veterans Home **spend federal and special funds prior to spending their general fund appropriation.**

Senate Bill No. 2418 - This bill provides a contingent appropriation to the Veterans Home for the purpose of building a new facility.

- **New Veterans Home facility** - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$6,483,226 from the permanent oil tax trust fund (35 percent state share) to the Veterans Home for the purpose of matching federal funds of \$12,040,278 (65 percent federal share) to build a new Veterans Home facility and demolish the existing facility. The appropriation from the permanent oil tax trust fund is to only be made available upon the Veterans Home obtaining approval for a federal state home construction grant from the federal Department of Veterans Affairs. The federal match is limited to the cost of a 121-bed facility, which is less than the current 150-bed capacity authorized for the Veterans Home. The 2007 Legislative Assembly authorized \$2,575,152 from the issuance of revenue bonds for project costs associated with expanding the Veterans Home construction project from the 121-bed capacity to a 150-bed facility. The Veterans Home is to use non-general fund revenue sources for the retirement of these bonds.
- **Additional skilled care beds** - The Legislative Assembly provided an exception to the moratorium on expansion of long-term care bed capacity in order for the Veterans Home to convert 14 basic care beds to skilled care beds. The new Veterans Home facility will be authorized for 52 skilled care beds and 98 basic care beds.
- **Budget Section reports** - The Veterans Home is to provide periodic reports to the Budget Section during the 2007-08 interim regarding the status of the Veterans Home construction project.