

**Department of Veterans' Affairs
Budget No. 321
House Bill Nos. 1007, 1177 and 1468**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2011-13 executive budget (bills as introduced)	7.00	\$1,137,219	\$0	\$1,137,219
2011-13 legislative appropriations	7.00	1,417,219	0	1,417,219
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	0.00	\$280,000	\$0	\$280,000
Legislative increase (decrease) to 2009-11 appropriations	0.00	\$385,732	\$0	\$385,732

ONGOING AND ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

	Ongoing General Fund Appropriation	One-Time General Fund Appropriation	Total General Fund Appropriation
2009-11 legislative appropriations	\$1,031,487	\$0	\$1,031,487
2011-13 legislative appropriations	1,099,626	317,593	1,417,219
2011-13 legislative increase (decrease) to 2009-11 appropriations	\$68,139	\$317,593	\$385,732
Percentage increase (decrease) to 2009-11 appropriations	6.6%	N/A	37.4%
2011-13 legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	\$0	\$280,000	\$280,000
Percentage increase (decrease) to executive budget	0.0%	744.8%	24.6%

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. 2015.

	Major Items FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Added one-time funding to hold "stand down" events (House Bill No. 1177).		\$20,000		\$20,000
Added one-time funding to be used in lieu of income generated from the veterans' postwar trust fund for programs to benefit and serve veterans or their dependents (\$210,000) and to purchase vans for the transport of veterans or their dependents (\$50,000) (House Bill No. 1468).		260,000		260,000
Total	0.00	\$280,000	\$0	\$280,000

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly did not change the executive recommendation which included funding for 7 FTE positions, the same as the 2009-11 biennium.

One-Time Funding

In Section 2 of House Bill No. 1007, the Legislative Assembly identified \$37,593 from the general fund, of which \$22,000 is for a discharge project and \$15,593 is for website redesign, as one-time funding. Other one-time funding items for the Department of Veterans' Affairs include:

- House Bill No. 1177 - \$20,000 from the general fund for "stand down" events to coordinate benefits and provide services to needy veterans in this state; and
- House Bill No. 1468 - \$260,000 from the general fund, of which \$210,000 is to be used in lieu of income generated from the veterans' postwar trust fund for programs to benefit and serve veterans or their dependents and \$50,000 for the purchase of vans to transport veterans or their dependents.

Veterans' Postwar Trust Fund

In House Bill No. 1468, the Legislative Assembly amended North Dakota Century Code Section 37-14-14 relating to the veterans' postwar trust fund to provide all income earned by the veterans' postwar trust fund in a biennium is appropriated to the Administrative Committee on Veterans' Affairs on a continuing basis in the biennium following the biennium in which it was earned and not in the biennium in which the income was earned. The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$210,000 from the general fund to be used in lieu of income generated from the veterans' postwar trust fund during the 2011-13 biennium to provide benefits and services to veterans during the 2011-13 biennium. Income earned by the veterans' postwar trust fund during the 2011-13 biennium will be available for benefits and services to veterans during the 2013-15 biennium.

Other Sections in House Bill No. 1007

Delivery of services to veterans - Section 5 provides for a Legislative Management study of the delivery of services to veterans, including the consistency in training and of the provision of services by county veterans' service officers.

Related Legislation

Veterans' "stand down" events - House Bill No. 1177 appropriates \$20,000 from the general fund to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for "stand down" events to coordinate benefits and provide services to needy veterans in this state.

Veterans' property tax exemption - House Bill No. 1217 expands the property tax exemption for the residence of a disabled veteran to include a disabled veteran who has an extra-schedular rating to include individual unemployability that brings the veteran's total disability rating to 100 percent and extends the exemption to an unremarried surviving spouse who is receiving Department of Veterans' Affairs dependency and indemnity compensation. A fiscal note prepared by the Tax Department indicates the change will result in additional payments of approximately \$215,000 for the 2011-13 biennium.

Veterans' postwar trust fund - House Bill No. 1468 amends Section 37-14-14 relating to the veterans' postwar trust fund and provided \$260,000 from the general fund, of which \$210,000 is to be used in lieu of income generated from the veterans' postwar trust fund for programs to benefit and serve veterans or their dependents and \$50,000 for the purchase of vans to transport veterans or their dependents.