

**Subject** Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy Bill

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### Overview

This bill contains appropriations to the Departments of Military Affairs and Veterans Affairs. The bill also contains a variety of policy proposals related to the two agencies.

## Article 1: Appropriations (Veterans and Military Affairs)

This article contains appropriations to the Department of Military Affairs and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

### Section Description – Article 1: Appropriations (Veterans and Military Affairs)

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- 1 **Appropriations.**  
Provides general guidance on the appropriations in sections 2 and 3.
- 2 **Military affairs.**
  - Subd. 1. Total appropriation.** Appropriates \$30,025,000 the first year and \$33,478,000 the second year to the Department of Military Affairs.
  - Subd. 2. Maintenance of training facilities.** Appropriates \$10,067,000 the first year and \$10,067,000 the second year to maintain training facilities.
  - Subd. 3. General support.** Appropriates \$5,544,000 the first year and \$4,997,000 the second year for general support, which includes funding for the Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) program.
  - Subd. 4. Enlistment incentives.** Appropriates \$14,114,000 in the first year and \$18,114,000 in the second year for enlistment incentives.
  - Subd. 5. Emergency services.** Appropriates \$300,000 each year for emergency services.

**Section Description – Article 1: Appropriations (Veterans and Military Affairs)**

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**3 Veterans affairs.**

**Subd. 1. Total appropriation.** Appropriates \$141,929,000 in the first year and \$146,700,000 in the second year to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Subd. 2. Veterans programs and services.** Appropriates \$30,677,000 the first year and \$31,080,000 the second year for veterans programs and services.

**Subd. 3. Veterans health care.** Appropriates \$111,252,000 the first year and \$115,620,000 the second year to veterans health care. Sets the base at \$120,050,000. Establishes sums that are to be transferred to the veterans homes special revenue account.

- Requires the commissioner to seek opportunities to maximize federal reimbursements of Medicare-eligible expenses.
- \$400,000 each year is for Veteran Community Health Navigators.
- \$550,000 each year is for the veteran suicide prevention program.
- Exempts the commissioner from performing annual cost of care calculations for certain veterans homes.

## **Article 2: Policy (Military and Veterans Affairs)**

This article contains changes to statutes that relate to military and veterans affairs.

**Section Description – Article 2: Policy (Military and Veterans Affairs)**

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**1 Federal accreditation and fee agreement required.**

Requires federal accreditation of for-profit veterans benefit services providers.

**2 Guarantee of benefits prohibited.**

Prohibits veterans benefit services providers from making a guarantee of veterans benefits.

**3 Violations; penalties.**

Establishes remedies under the Prevention of Consumer Fraud Act and civil penalties for violations of section 2.

**4 Gold star and blue star families; memorial plaque.**

Requires the commissioner of administration to place a memorial plaque in the court of honor on the State Capitol grounds to recognize the service and sacrifices of Minnesota's Gold Star and Blue Star families.



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