

# **LSC Greenbook**

**Analysis of the Enacted Budget**

## **Veterans' Organizations**

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## **ATTACHMENT:**

Budget Spreadsheet By Line Item

# Veterans' Organizations

- GRF subsidies flat-funded
- \$1.9 million in annual subsidies for 13 veterans' organizations

## OVERVIEW

### Agency Overview

The state of Ohio currently grants subsidies to 13 different organizations that serve Ohio's veterans. The primary mission of all of these organizations is to promote and provide assistance to veterans of their particular community. These groups provide services to veterans and their families to help assist with accessing benefits, job placement and training, transportation to and from Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities, and emergency assistance.

In addition to these state subsidies, each organization receives funding through federal grants, membership dues, fundraising efforts, and private donations. These subsidies primarily are used to pay salaries and wages for service officers, transportation and meeting expenses, as well as other operating expenses. These organizations are required to annually report to the Director of Veterans Services.

### Appropriation Overview

As shown in Table 1 below, these subsidies to veterans' organizations are paid for solely with money appropriated from the General Revenue Fund (GRF). For this purpose, the budget appropriates \$1,887,986 in both FY 2014 and FY 2015, amounts virtually identical to actual FY 2013 expenditures totaling \$1,887,950.

**Table 1. Veterans' Subsidy Appropriations by Fund Group, FY 2014-FY 2015  
(Am. Sub. H.B. 59)**

Fund Group	FY 2013*	FY 2014	% change, FY 2013-FY 2014	FY 2015	% change, FY 2014-FY 2015
General Revenue	\$1,887,950	\$1,887,986	0.0%	\$1,887,986	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,887,950</b>	<b>\$1,887,986</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>\$1,887,986</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

\*FY 2013 figures represent actual expenditures.

## ANALYSIS OF ENACTED BUDGET

### Veterans' Subsidy Program

This section provides an analysis of the amount appropriated for each of the veterans' organizations that receive a GRF subsidy. The FY 2014 and FY 2015 line item appropriations for each of the 13 veterans' organizations receiving a subsidy are summarized in Table 2 below. For all organizations listed, the appropriation represents a zero-growth change from the actual FY 2013 expenditure level.

<b>Table 2. Appropriations for Veterans' Subsidy Program</b>				
<b>Fund</b>	<b>ALI and Name</b>		<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>
<b>General Revenue Fund</b>				
GRF	743501	American Ex-Prisoners of War	\$28,910	\$28,910
GRF	746501	Army and Navy Union, USA, Inc.	\$63,539	\$63,539
GRF	747501	Korean War Veterans	\$57,118	\$57,118
GRF	748501	Jewish War Veterans	\$34,321	\$34,321
GRF	749501	Catholic War Veterans	\$66,978	\$66,978
GRF	750501	Military Order of the Purple Heart	\$65,116	\$65,116
GRF	751501	Vietnam Veterans of America	\$214,776	\$214,776
GRF	752501	American Legion of Ohio	\$349,189	\$349,189
GRF	753501	Amvets	\$332,547	\$332,547
GRF	754501	Disabled American Veterans	\$249,836	\$249,836
GRF	756501	Marine Corps League	\$133,947	\$133,947
GRF	757501	37th Division Veterans' Association	\$6,868	\$6,868
GRF	758501	Veterans of Foreign Wars	\$284,841	\$284,841
<b>General Revenue Fund Group Subtotal</b>			<b>\$1,887,986</b>	<b>\$1,887,986</b>
<b>Total Funding: Veterans' Subsidy Program</b>			<b>\$1,887,986</b>	<b>\$1,887,986</b>

#### American Ex-Prisoners of War (GRF line item 743501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the 11 chapters (approximately 900 members) of the American Ex-Prisoners of War organization, and helps fund the organization's state convention. The budget appropriates \$28,910 in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

#### Army and Navy Union, USA, Inc. (GRF line item 746501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Army and Navy Union, USA, Inc., which was founded in 1886 and is the oldest veterans' organization in America. This line item funds various services or activities of the organization such as wages for service officers, veterans' emergency aid, patriotic observances, web site maintenance, training expenses, and utilities. The budget appropriates \$63,539 in FY 2014 and

FY 2015. The only requirement for membership is that the individual was honorably discharged or presently honorably serving in the armed forces of the United States.

#### **Korean War Veterans (GRF line item 747501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Korean War Veterans organization. The funds are used for officer and committee expenses, as well as mileage reimbursements for meetings, local chapters' approved expenses, and general operating expenses. The budget appropriates \$57,118 in FY 2014 and FY 2015. The organization consists of 20 local chapters and approximately 2,500 members.

#### **Jewish War Veterans (GRF line item 748501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Jewish War Veterans organization, founded nationally in 1896. The budget appropriates \$34,321 in FY 2014 and FY 2015, which includes paying for the salary of a service officer who is located at the Cleveland Regional VA Office.

The organization has six local posts and 1,400 members. The posts are located in Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland (which is also the headquarters), Columbus, and Dayton.

#### **Catholic War Veterans (GRF line item 749501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Catholic War Veterans organization. The budget appropriates \$66,978 in FY 2014 and FY 2015. The funds are used for a variety of purposes, including general office expenses, payroll for an office manager, reimbursement for board officers, high school scholarships, and a quarterly publication, the *Buckeye Veteran*, that informs members of current events and benefit information. The organization in Ohio was formed in 1945 to serve any and all Ohio veterans.

#### **Military Order of the Purple Heart (GRF line item 750501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Military Order of the Purple Heart organization. The funds are used for a variety of purposes, such as general office expenses, administrative part-time staff salaries, newsletters and communications, reimbursement for officers, and conventions and other regional meetings. The budget appropriates \$65,116 in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

The organization serves all combat-wounded veterans who received the Purple Heart Medal. The organization has several service officers to assist veterans. The Purple Heart Medal is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of an armed force or any civilian national of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with one of the U.S. Armed Services after April 5, 1917, has been wounded or killed, or who has died, or may have later died after being wounded.

**Vietnam Veterans of America (GRF line item 751501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Vietnam Veterans of America organization. The line item helps to, among other things, pay for general operations, accounting and legal fees, travel, printing of publications, education and training, conferences, and compensation of current officers, and veterans aid activities. The budget appropriates \$214,776 in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

The organization is the only Vietnam veteran organization chartered by Congress and exclusively dedicated to Vietnam-era veterans and their families. There are 41 chapters in Ohio with more than 3,000 members. Two new chapters are in development.

**American Legion of Ohio (GRF line item 752501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the American Legion of Ohio organization. The budget appropriates \$349,189 in FY 2014 and FY 2015. The line item helps fund the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Program, which assists veterans in receiving benefits for which they may be entitled.

The organization has 583 posts and more than 100,000 members statewide and is Ohio's largest veterans' organization. The organization assists veterans, widows, and dependents in obtaining benefits from governmental entities and other community resources.

**AMVETS (GRF line item 753501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the American Veterans of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam organization, also known as "AMVETS." The line item supports salaries for service officers and support staff, office equipment, and other programming activities. Due to funding cutbacks, one service officer and one support person were laid-off in Cleveland at the VA regional office. In addition, one position in Cincinnati has not been filled. The budget appropriates \$332,547 in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

The organization is the fourth largest veterans' organization in Ohio, with 130 posts statewide and approximately 35,000 members. The organization has service officers and support staff in Cleveland, Dayton, Columbus, and Chillicothe, and assists veterans in obtaining benefits. In addition, the organization sponsors, among other things, Christmas baskets for the needy, veterans aid activities, Special Olympics, and youth athletic programs.

**Disabled American Veterans (GRF line item 754501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Disabled American Veterans organization. The line item helps pay for general operating expenses. The budget appropriates \$249,836 in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

The organization was founded nationally in 1920 and then in Ohio in 1921. It has nine service officers working at all VA medical centers in Ohio, as well as the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center. These officers assist the hospitalized veterans with problems regarding medical care and begin claims processing for benefits. Additionally, each service officer coordinates the organization's Department of Ohio Van Transportation Network. This network has 75 Ford passenger vans that provide free transportation for veterans to and from VA medical centers throughout Ohio. The vans were purchased by the organization's chapters. The organization also provides support to the VA medical centers, VA clinics, and both of the veterans homes located in Ohio.

### **Marine Corps League (GRF line item 756501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Marine Corps League organization. This funding pays wages and other operating expenses for service officers. The budget appropriates \$133,947 in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

The organization consists of 40 detachments and over 2,400 members who are all active duty, reserve, retired, and former Marines. The organization was first chartered by the United States Congress in 1937. The organization's Veteran Services Program serves veterans of all branches of the military. There are four service officers, two part-time and two full-time, located in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton, and Hamilton.

### **37th Division Veterans' Association (GRF line item 757501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the 37th Division Veterans' Association. The line item helps pay for things such as general operating expenses and wages. The budget appropriates \$6,868 in each fiscal year.

The Association was formed in 1918 by veterans of the 37th Infantry Division who fought in Europe during World War I with the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF). The Association assists veterans in obtaining medical and other administrative records and securing medals earned. Additionally, the Association assists families of deceased veterans in obtaining burial details.

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars (GRF line item 758501)**

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Veterans of Foreign Wars, or the VFW, organization. The line item is used to solely pay for the salaries of service officers. The budget appropriates \$284,841 in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

The organization has represented veterans for over a century and is the nation's oldest major veterans' organization. The organization has 382 chapters throughout Ohio with membership totaling more than 81,000. The organization currently has eight service officers who cover the state. Vacancies exist in Cincinnati and Columbus offices and the VFW plans to use this funding to help fill these vacancies.

# FY 2014 - FY 2015 Final Appropriation Amounts

# All Fund Groups

## Line Item Detail by Agency

			FY 2012	FY 2013	Appropriation FY 2014	FY 2013 to FY 2014 % Change	Appropriation FY 2015	FY 2014 to FY 2015 % Change
<b>Report For Main Operating Appropriations Bill</b>			<b>Version: Enacted</b>					
<b>VTO Veterans' Organizations</b>								
GRF	743501	American Ex-Prisoners of War	\$ 28,910	\$ 28,910	\$ 28,910	0.00%	\$ 28,910	0.00%
GRF	746501	Army and Navy Union, USA, Inc.	\$ 63,539	\$ 63,539	\$ 63,539	0.00%	\$ 63,539	0.00%
GRF	747501	Korean War Veterans	\$ 57,118	\$ 57,118	\$ 57,118	0.00%	\$ 57,118	0.00%
GRF	748501	Jewish War Veterans	\$ 34,321	\$ 34,321	\$ 34,321	0.00%	\$ 34,321	0.00%
GRF	749501	Catholic War Veterans	\$ 66,978	\$ 66,978	\$ 66,978	0.00%	\$ 66,978	0.00%
GRF	750501	Military Order of the Purple Heart	\$ 65,116	\$ 65,116	\$ 65,116	0.00%	\$ 65,116	0.00%
GRF	751501	Vietnam Veterans of America	\$ 214,776	\$ 214,776	\$ 214,776	0.00%	\$ 214,776	0.00%
GRF	752501	American Legion of Ohio	\$ 349,189	\$ 349,189	\$ 349,189	0.00%	\$ 349,189	0.00%
GRF	753501	Amvets	\$ 332,475	\$ 332,511	\$ 332,547	0.01%	\$ 332,547	0.00%
GRF	754501	Disabled American Veterans	\$ 249,836	\$ 249,836	\$ 249,836	0.00%	\$ 249,836	0.00%
GRF	756501	Marine Corps League	\$ 133,947	\$ 133,947	\$ 133,947	0.00%	\$ 133,947	0.00%
GRF	757501	37th Division Veterans' Association	\$ 6,868	\$ 6,868	\$ 6,868	0.00%	\$ 6,868	0.00%
GRF	758501	Veterans of Foreign Wars	\$ 284,841	\$ 284,841	\$ 284,841	0.00%	\$ 284,841	0.00%
<b>General Revenue Fund Total</b>			<b>\$ 1,887,914</b>	<b>\$ 1,887,950</b>	<b>\$ 1,887,986</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>\$ 1,887,986</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Veterans' Organizations Total</b>			<b>\$ 1,887,914</b>	<b>\$ 1,887,950</b>	<b>\$ 1,887,986</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>\$ 1,887,986</b>	<b>0.00%</b>