

# **LSC Greenbook**

**Analysis of the Enacted Budget**

## **Department of Veterans Services**

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## **ATTACHMENT:**

Budget Spreadsheet By Line Item

# Department of Veterans Services

- 75% of budget for Ohio veterans homes
- Veterans Bonus Program reductions forecasted
- Military Injury Relief Grant Program transferred from JFS

## OVERVIEW

### Duties and Responsibilities

The Department's primary charge is to actively identify, connect with, and advocate for veterans and their families. The Department also works to connect approximately 877,000 Ohio veterans and their families to programs and benefits to which they are entitled.

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services (DVS) was established by S.B. 289 of the 127th General Assembly and began functioning as an agency on August 21, 2008. When the Department was established, it merged operations from the Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs, the Ohio Veterans' Home Agency, and the Ohio State Approving Agency. The Ohio State Approving Agency was transferred from the Ohio Department of Education on October 1, 2008. Besides transferring and merging these operations, S.B. 289 also enacted several new duties and responsibilities, including additional outreach, advocacy, and expanded coordination with county veteran service commissions. Since its startup, the Department has also assumed responsibility for the administration of the Troops to Teachers and the Veterans Bonus Program.

### Appropriation Overview

The Department's FY 2015 expenditures are compared with the appropriations for FYs 2016 and 2017, by fund group, in Table 1 below.

| Fund Group        | FY 2015*            | FY 2016             | % Change, FY 2015-FY 2016 | FY 2017              | % Change, FY 2016-FY 2017 |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| General Revenue   | \$37,791,206        | \$38,750,496        | 2.5%                      | \$53,010,196         | 36.8%                     |
| Dedicated Purpose | \$11,149,926        | \$15,738,349        | 41.2%                     | \$16,175,171         | 2.8%                      |
| Federal           | \$27,668,129        | \$31,465,159        | 13.7%                     | \$32,981,661         | 4.8%                      |
| Debt Service      | \$7,364,335         | \$2,532,312         | -65.6%                    | \$1,301,927          | -48.6%                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>\$83,973,596</b> | <b>\$88,486,316</b> | <b>5.4%</b>               | <b>\$103,468,955</b> | <b>16.9%</b>              |

\*FY 2015 figures represent actual expenditures.

The budget appropriates an FY 2016 total of \$88,486,316, an increase of \$4,512,721, or 5.4%, from FY 2015 total expenditures of \$83,973,595. The FY 2017 appropriation totals \$103,468,955, an increase of \$14,982,639, or 16.9%, from the FY 2016 appropriation.

The largest driver of the changes in the Department's budget over FYs 2015-2017 is the Veterans Bonus Program. Expenditures in the Debt Service Fund Group are dropping because of the reduction in the number of qualifying veterans and related compensation payments and program administration costs. In addition, a large debt service payment on the bonds issued for the program will be made in FY 2017 out of money appropriated from the GRF.

The Department's largest expense category – around 60% – will be personal services, which encompasses payroll-related expenses (wages, salaries, fringe benefits, and other payroll charges). The majority of these personal services expenses are associated with operations of the two veterans homes. The second largest expense category – around 17% – will involve transfers and nonexpense revenue (related to the Veterans Bonus Program). The remainder of the expenses will fall under the categories of supplies and maintenance (around 13%), followed by a mix of subsidies and shared revenue, purchased personal services, equipment, and capital items.

### Staffing Levels

Table 2 below shows the Department's number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees from FY 2014 projected through FY 2017. The majority of the Department's employees work at the veterans homes.

| <b>Work Location</b>         | <b>FY 2014</b> | <b>FY 2015</b> | <b>FY 2016*</b> | <b>FY 2017*</b> |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Veterans Services – Columbus | 20.5           | 21.0           | 22.0            | 22.0            |
| Ohio Veterans Homes          | 779.6          | 821.3          | 813.7           | 813.7           |
| Veterans Approving Service   | 5.8            | 5.9            | 6.9             | 6.9             |
| Troops to Teachers           | 1.0            | 1.0            | 1.1             | 1.1             |
| Veterans Bonus Program       | 5.0            | 3.5            | 3.7             | 3.7             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>811.9</b>   | <b>852.7</b>   | <b>847.4</b>    | <b>847.4</b>    |

\*FY 2016-FY 2017 figures are estimates.

## ANALYSIS OF ENACTED BUDGET

### Introduction

This section provides an analysis of the funding for each line item in the Department's FY 2016-FY 2017 budget. In this analysis, the Department's line items are grouped into four major categories as follows:

1. Ohio Veterans Homes;
2. Veterans Services;
3. Veterans Educational Activities; and
4. Veterans Bonus Program

To aid the reader in finding each item in the analysis, the following table shows the category in which each line item has been placed.

| Categorization of Veterans Services Line Items for Analysis of the Budget |  |                                    |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Fund  | ALI and Name                                     | Category                           |
| <b>General Revenue Fund</b>   |  |                                    |
| GRF 900321  | Veterans' Homes                                  | 1: Ohio Veterans Homes             |
| GRF 900402  | Hall of Fame                                     | 2: Veterans Services               |
| GRF 900408  | Department of Veterans Services                  | 2: Veterans Services               |
| GRF 900901  | Veterans Compensation G.O. Bond Debt Service     | 4: Veterans Bonus Program          |
| <b>Dedicated Purpose Fund Group</b>                                       |  |                                    |
| 4840 900603   | Veterans' Home Services                          | 1: Ohio Veterans Homes             |
| 4E20 900602   | Veterans' Homes Operating                        | 1: Ohio Veterans Homes             |
| 5DB0 900643   | Military Injury Relief Program                   | 2: Veterans Services               |
| 5PH0 900642   | Veterans Initiatives                             | 2: Veterans Services               |
| <b>Federal Fund Group</b>   |  |                                    |
| 3680 900614   | Veterans Training                                | 3: Veterans Educational Activities |
| 3740 900606   | Troops to Teachers                               | 3: Veterans Educational Activities |
| 3BX0 900609   | Medicare Services                                | 1: Ohio Veterans Homes             |
| 3L20 900601   | Veterans' Homes Operations – Federal             | 1: Ohio Veterans Homes             |
| <b>Debt Service Fund Group</b>  |  |                                    |
| 7041 900615   | Veterans Bonus Program – Administration          | 4: Veterans Bonus Program          |
| 7041 900641   | Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq Compensation | 4: Veterans Bonus Program          |

## Category 1: Ohio Veterans Homes

The appropriations in this category provide funding for the operation of two veterans homes – one in Sandusky and one in Georgetown. The Sandusky facility provides nursing facility and domiciliary care, while the Georgetown facility provides only nursing facility care.

**Sandusky.** The 94-acre campus in Sandusky has 300 beds in the Veterans Hall Domiciliary (seven of these beds are reserved for visiting family and guests). The Domiciliary provides independence and freedom comparable to community living for residents who do not require hospital or nursing home care. The Secrest-Giffin Nursing Home, also in Sandusky, has 427 beds and provides nursing care and Alzheimer's and other dementia care for residents. The Sandusky facility also offers skilled care and hospice care for residents in need of those services.

**Georgetown.** The Georgetown facility is a 35-acre campus with 168 nursing home beds, 42 of which are dedicated to Alzheimer's and dementia patients. The Georgetown facility offers skilled care and hospice care for residents in need of those services.

The table below shows the five line items that are used to pay for operation of the two veterans homes, as well as the FY 2016 and FY 2017 appropriations. It is followed by a description of those line items, which includes noting the expenses for which the appropriations are expected to be allocated, and, for non-GRF line items, the revenue source(s) that fund their appropriations.

| Appropriations for Ohio Veterans Homes       |        |                                      |                     |                     |
|--|--------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Fund   |        | ALI and Name                         | FY 2016             | FY 2017             |
| <b>General Revenue Fund (GRF)</b>            |        |                                      |                     |                     |
| GRF  | 900321 | Veterans' Homes                      | \$26,992,608        | \$26,992,608        |
| <b>General Revenue Fund Subtotal</b>         |        |                                      | <b>\$26,992,608</b> | <b>\$26,992,608</b> |
| <b>Dedicated Purpose Fund (DPF) Group</b>    |        |                                      |                     |                     |
| 4840   | 900603 | Veterans' Homes Services             | \$883,523           | \$985,523           |
| 4E20   | 900602 | Veterans' Homes Operating            | \$12,804,826        | \$13,139,648        |
| <b>Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Subtotal</b> |        |                                      | <b>\$13,688,349</b> | <b>\$14,125,171</b> |
| <b>Federal (FED) Fund Group</b>              |        |                                      |                     |                     |
| 3BX0   | 900609 | Medicare Services                    | \$2,475,000         | \$2,846,250         |
| 3L20   | 900601 | Veterans' Homes Operations – Federal | \$28,110,159        | \$29,245,411        |
| <b>Federal Fund Group Subtotal</b>           |        |                                      | <b>\$30,585,159</b> | <b>\$32,091,661</b> |
| <b>Total Funding: Ohio Veterans Homes</b>    |        |                                      | <b>\$71,266,116</b> | <b>\$73,209,440</b> |

**Veterans' Homes (GRF line item 900321)**

This line item is for costs incurred in the administration and operation of the two state veterans homes. The budget appropriates \$26,992,608 in FY 2016 and FY 2017, an increase of \$518,401, or 2.0%, over FY 2015 expenditures totaling \$26,474,207. Each year's appropriation will be allocated primarily for payroll-related expenses (around 75%), and secondarily for supplies and maintenance (roughly 20%). The remainder will be allocated for a mix of equipment, capital improvements, and purchased personal services.

**Veterans' Homes Operating (DPF line item 900602)**

This line item is used to cover operating expenses at the two veterans homes. The Veterans' Home Operating Fund (Fund 4E20), which provides the money for the line item's appropriation, consists of 80% of the revenues collected from resident assessments. The fund's revenues are dependent upon the occupancy rate of the facilities, the residents' ability to pay, and the assessment charged. The Department anticipates annual increases in these resident assessments.

The budget appropriates \$12,804,826 in FY 2016, an increase of \$3,187,193, or 33.1%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$9,617,633. For FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$13,139,648, an increase of \$334,822, or 2.6%, from the FY 2016 appropriation. Each year's appropriation will be allocated primarily for payroll-related expenses (around 60%), and secondarily for supplies and maintenance (roughly 40%). The remainder will be allocated for a mix of equipment, capital improvements, and purchased personal services. Most of the remainder will be allocated for capital improvements.

**Veterans' Homes Services (DPF line item 900603)**

This line item is used: (1) to purchase food products and medication services, and (2) to maintain the areas of the veterans homes that are rented or leased. The Veterans Home Rental and Service Revenue Fund (Fund 4840), which provides the money for the line item's appropriation, consists of reimbursements from hospice, third-party pharmacy receipts, as well as money from leases, rentals, and meals.

The budget appropriates \$883,523 in FY 2016, a decrease of \$583,061, or 39.8%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$1,466,584. This decrease is due to a reduction in hospice income. For FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$985,523, an increase of \$102,000, or 11.5%, from the FY 2016 appropriation.

**Veterans' Homes Operations – Federal (FED line item 900601)**

This line item is used to pay for the operating expenses of the two state veterans homes. It is funded from the Federal Grants Fund (Fund 3L20), which consists of money received from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for per diem rates. The fund's revenues are dependent upon the number of days of care provided to nursing home

and domiciliary residents and the per diem rates established by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The per diem rate effective on March 1, 2015, is \$102.38 for nursing home residents and \$44.19 for domiciliary residents.

The budget appropriates \$28,110,159 in FY 2016, an increase of \$2,991,979, or 11.9%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$25,118,180. For FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$29,245,411, an increase of \$1,135,252, or 4.0%, over the FY 2016 appropriation. Each year's appropriation will primarily be allocated for payroll-related expenses (98%), and secondarily supplies and maintenance (2%).

### **Medicare Services (FED line item 900609)**

This line item is used to provide Medicare-related and other services to eligible veterans. These services include physical therapy, IV medication, skilled nursing care, medical care, room, board, and other Medicare required goods and services. Funds are also used to purchase Medicare allowable equipment.

The Medicare Services Fund (Fund 3BX0), which provides the money for the line item's appropriation, consists of Medicare Part A and B reimbursements for skilled nursing care services. The fund's revenues can fluctuate based on rates established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, the number of residents that require skilled care, and the level of treatment that these residents require.

The budget appropriates \$2,475,000 in FY 2016, an increase of \$653,437, or 35.9%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$1,821,563. For FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$2,846,250, an increase of \$371,250, or 15.0%, from the FY 2016 appropriation. Each year's appropriation will primarily be allocated for payroll-related expenses (around 75%), followed by supplies and maintenance, and equipment.

## Category 2: Veterans Services

The appropriations in this category: (1) help to connect veterans with their benefits, (2) assist county veteran service commissions, which includes providing training, certification, and accreditation of more than 800 county veteran service officers, commissioners, and staff, and (3) support the Department's responsibility as a custodian of 1.9 million veterans' discharge records, including converting these records from paper to an electronic format.

The table below shows the four line items that are used to pay for these services and activities, as well as the FY 2016 and FY 2017 appropriations. It is followed by a description of those line items, which includes noting the expenses for which the appropriations are expected to be allocated, and, for non-GRF line items, the revenue source(s) that fund their appropriations.

| <b>Appropriations for Veterans Services</b>  |                     |                                 |                    |                    |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Fund</b>                                  | <b>ALI and Name</b> |                                 | <b>FY 2016</b>     | <b>FY 2017</b>     |
| <b>General Revenue Fund (GRF)</b>            |                     |                                 |                    |                    |
| GRF  | 900402              | Hall of Fame                    | \$107,075          | \$107,075          |
| GRF  | 900408              | Department of Veterans Services | \$2,567,113        | \$2,567,113        |
| <b>General Revenue Fund Subtotal</b>         |                     |                                 | <b>\$2,674,188</b> | <b>\$2,674,188</b> |
| <b>Dedicated Purpose Fund (DPF) Group</b>    |                     |                                 |                    |                    |
| 5DB0   | 900643              | Military Injury Relief Program  | \$2,000,000        | \$2,000,000        |
| 5PH0   | 900642              | Veterans' Initiatives           | \$50,000           | \$50,000           |
| <b>Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Subtotal</b> |                     |                                 | <b>\$2,050,000</b> | <b>\$2,050,000</b> |
| <b>Total Funding: Veterans Services</b>      |                     |                                 | <b>\$4,724,188</b> | <b>\$4,724,188</b> |

### Hall of Fame (GRF line item 900402)

This line item is used to pay for expenses relating to the Veterans Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame recognizes veterans for their significant contributions they have made, or are making, to their community, state, and nation after serving honorably in the armed services. This program was created in 1992 and was the first of its kind in the nation. In 2014, 101 nomination packets were received. Of those, 20 were inducted into the Hall of Fame.

The budget appropriates \$107,075 in FY 2016 and FY 2017, an increase of \$5,667, or 5.6%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$101,408. These funds are typically allocated for payroll-related expenses and supplies and maintenance.

### Department of Veterans Services (GRF line item 900408)

This line item is used to pay the operating expenses that the Department incurs in performing its mission to identify, connect with, and advocate for veterans and their families. It also pays for operating expenses related to the Veterans' Record System,

which contains digitized copies of discharge and separation information on Ohio veterans.

The budget appropriates \$2,567,113 in FY 2016 and FY 2017, an increase of \$485,381, or 23.3%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$2,081,732. This level of funding will allow the Department to maintain current service levels. Each year's appropriation will primarily be allocated for payroll-related expenses (approximately 80%), followed by supplies and maintenance, equipment, and purchased personal services.

Related temporary law requires money appropriated to this line item be distributed directly to the Resurrecting Lives Foundation as follows:

- \$25,000 in each fiscal year to fund its 2015 Employment Initiative, which aids in the transition of traumatic brain injury (TBI) affected service members into civilian life and employment.
- \$20,375 in each fiscal year to fund its Community TBI Education Program, which provides education and awareness for the legal community and lay community about traumatic brain injury, its effect on the veteran community, and the resulting challenges veterans face in the criminal justice system.

An ongoing departmental priority is, budget permitting, to improve the benefits delivery system through public awareness, outreach and education, staff training, and streamlining the application process. A notable accomplishment in this regard from the Department's perspective is a joint effort with the Cleveland V.A. Regional Benefits Office that resulted in a significant improvement in claims processing for Ohio's veterans through systemic changes, training, and enhanced communications. Also of importance to the Department is reducing unemployment in the veteran's community, an effort that currently includes collaboration with Ohio's Adjutant General, the Department of Job and Family Services, and the Office of the Governor.

#### **Military Injury Relief Program (DPF line item 900643)**

This is a new line item that will support the Military Injury Relief Program, which the budget transfers from the Department of Job and Family Services to the Department of Veterans Services. The program provides a grant to members of the armed forces who were injured in the line of duty. To be eligible for the grant, an individual must have been injured while serving on active duty during Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn, or have been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder after having served in those operations. The budget appropriates \$2,000,000 in FY 2016 and FY 2017 for this purpose.

**Veterans' Initiatives (DPF line item 900642)**

This line item is used to fund a statewide pilot program designed to identify and assist eligible veterans in transferring from Medicaid to services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The program involves a partnership between the Department of Veterans Services and the Ohio Department of Medicaid to determine and implement ways to improve services to veterans.<sup>1</sup> For this purpose, the budget appropriates \$50,000 in FY 2016 and FY 2017, all of which will be allocated for purchased personal services. The appropriations are backed by cash transferred from the Ohio Department of Medicaid.

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<sup>1</sup> Authorized by Section 323.350 of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th General Assembly.

### Category 3: Veterans Educational Activities

This category of appropriations provides funds for the approval and supervision of educational programs for veterans and their dependents, as well as funds to encourage veterans to enter the teaching profession.

The table below shows the two line items that are used to pay for these services and activities, as well as the FY 2016 and FY 2017 appropriations. It is followed by a description of those line items, which includes noting the expenses for which the appropriations are expected to be allocated, and the revenue source(s) that fund their appropriations.

| Appropriations for Veterans Educational Activities    |              |                    |                  |                  |
|---|--------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Fund  | ALI and Name |                    | FY 2016          | FY 2017          |
| <b>Federal (FED) Fund Group</b>                       |              |                    |                  |                  |
| 3680  | 900614       | Veterans Training  | \$730,000        | \$740,000        |
| 3740  | 900606       | Troops to Teachers | \$150,000        | \$150,000        |
| <i>Federal Fund Group Subtotal</i>                    |              |                    | <b>\$880,000</b> | <b>\$890,000</b> |
| <b>Total Funding: Veterans Educational Activities</b> |              |                    | <b>\$880,000</b> | <b>\$890,000</b> |

#### Veterans Training (FED line item 900614)

This line item is used to fund the approval and supervision of educational programs for veterans and their dependents. The Veterans Training Fund (Fund 3680), which provides the money for the line item's appropriation, receives revenues that are determined by funding levels established by Congress and allocated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The amount of federal funds allocated to each state is dependent upon the number of active sites within that state.

The budget appropriates \$730,000 in FY 2016, an increase of \$97,448, or 15.4%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$632,552. For FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$740,000, an increase of \$10,000, or 1.4%, from the FY 2016 appropriation. Each year's appropriation will primarily be allocated for payroll-related expenses, and secondarily supplies and maintenance.

#### Troops to Teachers (FED line item 900606)

This line item is used to fund Troops to Teachers, a program for the recruitment of military personnel into the profession of teaching. The line item's appropriation is supported by money from the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) Program administered by the U.S. Department of Defense. Federal funds originate with the U.S. Department of Education and are then transferred to the U.S. Department of Defense.

The budget appropriates \$150,000 in FY 2016 and FY 2017, an increase of \$54,166, or 56.5%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$95,834. Each year's appropriation will primarily be allocated for payroll-related expenses, and secondarily supplies and maintenance.

## Category 4: Veterans Bonus Program

This category of appropriations provides funds for the support of the Veterans Bonus Program, which was approved by Ohio voters in November 2009. It is funded through the issuance of bonds. Eligible service members, veterans, or qualifying family members may be eligible for up to \$1,500 in bonus payments based upon length and location of the qualifying service. Family members of those killed in action, missing in action, or prisoners of war may be eligible for a bonus of \$5,000. Between the August 2010 startup and October 2014, the program paid out \$67.8 million in bonuses to 83,943 qualifying veterans. At that point, the program was averaging roughly 270 applications per week.

December 31, 2013 was the deadline for Ohio veterans to apply for a bonus for active duty service during the Persian Gulf War and December 31, 2014 was the application deadline for veterans who served in Iraq. The bonus will remain in effect for veterans who served in Afghanistan, or anywhere in the world, from October 7, 2011 until the President declares an end to the war in Afghanistan. Applicants who are eligible at that time will have an additional three years to apply.

The table below shows the three line items that are used to pay for these services and activities, as well as the FY 2016 and FY 2017 appropriations. It is followed by a description of those line items, which includes noting the expenses for which the appropriations are expected to be allocated, and, for non-GRF line items, the revenue source(s) that fund their appropriations.

| <b>Appropriations for Veterans Bonus Program</b> |                     |  |                     |                     |
|--|---------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Fund</b>                                      | <b>ALI and Name</b> |  | <b>FY 2016</b>      | <b>FY 2017</b>      |
| <b>General Revenue Fund (GRF)</b>                |                     |  |                     |                     |
| GRF  | 900901              | Veterans Compensation General Obligation Bond Debt Service | \$9,083,700         | \$23,343,400        |
| <b>General Revenue Fund Subtotal</b>             |                     |  | <b>\$9,083,700</b>  | <b>\$23,343,400</b> |
| <b>Debt Service Fund (DSF) Group</b>             |                     |  |                     |                     |
| 7041   | 900615              | Veterans Bonus Program – Administration                    | \$359,173           | \$359,173           |
| 7041   | 900641              | Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq Compensation           | \$2,173,139         | \$942,754           |
| <b>Debt Service Fund Group Subtotal</b>          |                     |  | <b>\$2,532,312</b>  | <b>\$1,301,927</b>  |
| <b>Total Funding: Veterans Bonus Program</b>     |                     |  | <b>\$11,616,012</b> | <b>\$24,645,327</b> |

### Veterans Compensation G.O. Bond Debt Service (GRF line item 900901)

This line item is used to pay all debt service and related financing costs on obligations issued for Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq compensation purposes.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 151.01 and 151.12.

The budget appropriates \$9,083,700 in FY 2016, a decrease of \$50,159, or 0.6%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$9,133,859. For FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$23,343,400, an increase of \$14,259,700, or 157.0%, from the FY 2016 appropriation. The increase in FY 2017 is largely due to a \$16,000,000 payment that will be made on the 2013 bond principle.

**Veterans Bonus Program – Administration (DSF line item 900615)**

This line item is used to pay the operating expenses incurred to administer the Veterans Bonus Program. For FY 2016 and FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$359,173, a decrease of \$25,829, or 7.8%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$333,344. The decrease reflects forecasted staff reductions as the number of new applications decrease. Approximately one-half of each year's appropriation will primarily be allocated for payroll-related expenses, and secondarily supplies and maintenance.

**Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq Compensation (DSF line item 900641)**

This line item is used to make bonus payments to qualified Ohio veterans of the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq conflicts. Depending upon specified circumstances of their military service, the maximum benefit for an eligible veteran is \$500, \$1,000, or \$1,500. For FY 2016, the budget appropriates \$2,173,139, a decrease of \$4,857,852, or 69.1%, from FY 2015 expenditures of \$7,030,991. For FY 2017, the budget appropriates \$942,754, a decrease of \$1,230,385, or 56.6%, from the FY 2016 appropriation. This funding decrease is indicative of the Department's expectation that applications to the bonus program will be decreasing as these conflicts come to an end.

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# FY 2016 - FY 2017 Final Appropriation Amounts

# All Fund Groups

## Line Item Detail by Agency

|  |        |  | FY 2014              | FY 2015              | Appropriation<br>FY 2016   | FY 2015 to FY 2016<br>% Change | Appropriation<br>FY 2017 | FY 2016 to FY 2017<br>% Change |
|--|--------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Report For Main Operating Appropriations Bill</b> |        |  |                      |                      |                            |                                |                          |                                |
|  |        |  |                      |                      | <b>Version: As Enacted</b> |                                |                          |                                |
| <b>DVS Department of Veterans Services</b>           |        |  |                      |                      |                            |                                |                          |                                |
| GRF  | 900321 | Veterans' Homes  | \$ 27,174,503        | \$ 26,474,207        | \$ 26,992,608              | 1.96%                          | \$ 26,992,608            | 0.00%                          |
| GRF  | 900402 | Hall of Fame   | \$ 87,716            | \$ 101,408           | \$ 107,075                 | 5.59%                          | \$ 107,075               | 0.00%                          |
| GRF  | 900408 | Department of Veterans Services                            | \$ 1,998,211         | \$ 2,081,732         | \$ 2,567,113               | 23.32%                         | \$ 2,567,113             | 0.00%                          |
| GRF  | 900901 | Veterans Compensation General Obligation Bond Debt Service | \$ 7,194,515         | \$ 9,133,859         | \$ 9,083,700               | -0.55%                         | \$ 23,343,400            | 156.98%                        |
| <b>General Revenue Fund Total</b>                    |        |  | <b>\$ 36,454,945</b> | <b>\$ 37,791,206</b> | <b>\$ 38,750,496</b>       | <b>2.54%</b>                   | <b>\$ 53,010,196</b>     | <b>36.80%</b>                  |
| 4840   | 900603 | Veterans' Homes Services                                   | \$ 1,266,430         | \$ 1,466,584         | \$ 883,523                 | -39.76%                        | \$ 985,523               | 11.54%                         |
| 4E20   | 900602 | Veterans' Homes Operating                                  | \$ 9,192,763         | \$ 9,617,633         | \$ 12,804,826              | 33.14%                         | \$ 13,139,648            | 2.61%                          |
| 5DB0   | 900643 | Military Injury Relief Program                             | \$ 0                 | \$ 0                 | \$ 2,000,000               | N/A                            | \$ 2,000,000             | 0.00%                          |
| 5PH0   | 900642 | Veterans Initiatives                                       | \$ 6,683             | \$ 10,895            | \$ 50,000                  | 358.93%                        | \$ 50,000                | 0.00%                          |
| 6040   | 900604 | Veterans' Homes Improvement                                | \$ 570,102           | \$ 54,814            | \$ 0                       | -100.00%                       | \$ 0                     | N/A                            |
| <b>Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Total</b>            |        |  | <b>\$ 11,035,978</b> | <b>\$ 11,149,926</b> | <b>\$ 15,738,349</b>       | <b>41.15%</b>                  | <b>\$ 16,175,171</b>     | <b>2.78%</b>                   |
| 7041   | 900615 | Veteran Bonus Program - Administration                     | \$ 449,647           | \$ 333,344           | \$ 359,173                 | 7.75%                          | \$ 359,173               | 0.00%                          |
| 7041   | 900641 | Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq Compensation           | \$ 9,720,444         | \$ 7,030,991         | \$ 2,173,139               | -69.09%                        | \$ 942,754               | -56.62%                        |
| <b>Debt Service Fund Group Total</b>                 |        |  | <b>\$ 10,170,091</b> | <b>\$ 7,364,335</b>  | <b>\$ 2,532,312</b>        | <b>-65.61%</b>                 | <b>\$ 1,301,927</b>      | <b>-48.59%</b>                 |
| 3680   | 900614 | Veterans Training  | \$ 609,954           | \$ 632,552           | \$ 730,000                 | 15.41%                         | \$ 740,000               | 1.37%                          |
| 3740   | 900606 | Troops to Teachers   | \$ 97,430            | \$ 95,834            | \$ 150,000                 | 56.52%                         | \$ 150,000               | 0.00%                          |
| 3BX0   | 900609 | Medicare Services  | \$ 2,782,255         | \$ 1,821,563         | \$ 2,475,000               | 35.87%                         | \$ 2,846,250             | 15.00%                         |
| 3L20   | 900601 | Veterans' Homes Operations - Federal                       | \$ 24,741,631        | \$ 25,118,180        | \$ 28,110,159              | 11.91%                         | \$ 29,245,411            | 4.04%                          |
| <b>Federal Fund Group Total</b>                      |        |  | <b>\$ 28,231,270</b> | <b>\$ 27,668,129</b> | <b>\$ 31,465,159</b>       | <b>13.72%</b>                  | <b>\$ 32,981,661</b>     | <b>4.82%</b>                   |
| <b>Department of Veterans Services Total</b>         |        |  | <b>\$ 85,892,283</b> | <b>\$ 83,973,595</b> | <b>\$ 88,486,316</b>       | <b>5.37%</b>                   | <b>\$ 103,468,955</b>    | <b>16.93%</b>                  |