

LSC Greenbook

Analysis of the Enacted Budget

Veterans' Organizations

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ATTACHMENT:

Budget Spreadsheet By Line Item

Veterans' Organizations

- GRF subsidies increased by 5% from FY 2011 levels for total biennial appropriation of nearly \$3.8 million

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.

All 13 veterans' organizations receive a General Revenue Fund (GRF) subsidy. In addition to state GRF, 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 state's Director of Veterans Services.

Appropriation Overview

Table 1. Veteran's Subsidy Appropriations by Fund Group, FY 2012-FY 2013

Fund Group	FY 2011*	FY 2012	% change, FY 2011-FY 2012	FY 2013	% change, FY 2012-FY 2013
General Revenue	\$1,798,082	\$1,887,986	5.0%	\$1,887,986	0.0%
TOTAL	\$1,798,082	\$1,887,986	5.0%	\$1,887,986	0.0%

*FY 2011 figures represent actual expenditures.

As shown in Table 1 above, veterans' organizations receive state funding from the GRF only. The budget provides for a 5% increase in FY 2012 over the FY 2011 expenditure levels. FY 2013 is flat funded from the FY 2012 amount.

ANALYSIS OF ENACTED BUDGET

Veterans' Subsidy Program

This section provides an analysis of the appropriations for each of the veterans' organizations that receive a GRF subsidy. Table 2 below summarizes the line items that are used for this purpose and the amount appropriated in each of FYs 2012 and 2013.

Table 2. Appropriations for Veterans' Subsidy Program, FY 2012-FY 2013				
Fund	ALI and Name		FY 2012	FY 2013
General Revenue Fund				
GRF	743501	American Ex-Prisoners of War	\$28,910	\$28,910
GRF	746501	Army & 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
General Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$1,887,986	\$1,887,986
Total Funding: Veterans' Subsidy Program			\$1,887,986	\$1,887,986

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

This GRF subsidy line item supports travel, training, and lodging expenses for the five national service officers of the American Ex-Prisoners of War organization. Additionally, the organization mails a quarterly newsletter to former prisoners of war and their spouses informing them of possible benefits available to them. There are 12 chapters in the state with a total of 933 members.

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

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Army & Navy Union, USA, Inc., which was founded in 1886 and is the oldest veterans' organization in America. The only requirement for membership is that the individual was honorably discharged or presently honorably serving in the armed forces of the United States. 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.

Korean War Veterans (GRF line item 747501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Korean War Veterans organization. The organization consists of 20 local chapters and 2,600 members. The funds are used for officer and committee expenses, as well as mileage reimbursements for meetings, local chapters' approved expenses, and general operating expenses. Additionally, funds are used to support veterans in need, veterans' homes, and other service and educational activities.

Jewish War Veterans (GRF line item 748501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Jewish War Veterans organization. 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. The organization has four executive officers and seven assistant officers. Funds are also used to pay the salary of a service officer who is located at the Cleveland Regional VA Office. The organization provides services at eight veterans medical centers and outpatient clinics.

Catholic War Veterans (GRF line item 749501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Catholic War Veterans organization. The organization in Ohio was formed in 1945 to serve any and all Ohio veterans. 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.

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 organization serves all combat wounded veterans who received the Purple Heart Medal. The organization has several service officers to assist veterans. 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 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 organization is the only Vietnam veteran organization chartered by Congress and exclusively dedicated to Vietnam-era veterans and their families. There are 40 chapters in Ohio with more than 3,000 members. Membership continues to increase and an additional chapter is currently in development. The organization has two service representatives – one in Cleveland and one in Columbus – that assist veterans in obtaining benefits. Additionally, the organization has a board of directors, consisting of five executive members and six district directors. 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.

American Legion of Ohio (GRF line item 752501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the American Legion of Ohio organization. The organization has 583 posts and more than 120,000 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. The line item helps the organization employ clerical assistants, train service officers, and provide training and resource materials to various locations. Approximately 14,000 veterans and dependents are served each year. The Ohio American Legion Service Division consists of a service director and half-time secretary in Delaware; Department service officers at the VA medical centers in Cleveland, Dayton, and Cincinnati; four Department service officers at the Cleveland VA Regional Office (with two clerical assistants). A stipend salary is also provided to the Lucas County Council of the American Legion to employ a service officer at the Toledo VA Outpatient Clinic.

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 organization is the fourth largest veterans' organization in Ohio, with 140 posts statewide. The organization has service officers and support staff at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers in Brecksville, Chillicothe, Cincinnati, Dayton, and Wade Park. Service officers and staff are also provided in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, and Portsmouth. The organization 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. The line item supports salaries for service officers and support staff, office equipment, and other programming activities.

Disabled American Veterans (GRF line item 754501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Disabled American Veterans organization. The organization was founded in 1920 and has 132 affiliated chapters and auxiliary units in Ohio with 43,677 members.

The organization has six service officers working at all VA medical centers in Ohio, as well as the Chalmers Wylie VA Clinic. A transition service officer is also located at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. These officers work with nationally accredited service officers in Cleveland and Cincinnati to assist in processing claims. The 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 72 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. The line item helps pay for general operating expenses.

Marine Corps League (GRF line item 756501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Marine Corps League organization. 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 five service officers located in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, and Hamilton. This funding pays wages and other operating expenses.

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

This GRF subsidy line item supports the 37th Division Veterans' Association. 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. The line item helps pay for things such as general operating expenses and wages.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (GRF line item 758501)

This GRF subsidy line item supports the Veterans of Foreign Wars, or the VFW, organization. The organization has represented veterans for over a century and is the nation's oldest major veterans' organization. The organization has 410 chapters throughout Ohio with membership totaling close to 87,000. The organization has four

service officers in the field and three service officers and three temporary staff members in the Cleveland Regional Office. The line item is used to solely pay for the salaries of these individuals.

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FY 2012 - FY 2013 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Groups

Line Item Detail by Agency					Appropriations	FY 2011 to FY 2012	Appropriations	FY 2012 to FY 2013
			FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	% Change	FY 2013	% Change
Report For Main Operating Appropriations Bill			Version: Enacted					
VTO Veterans' Organizations								
GRF	743501	American Ex-Prisoners of War	\$ 27,533	\$ 27,533	\$ 28,910	5.00%	\$ 28,910	0.00%
GRF	746501	Army and Navy Union, USA, Inc.	\$ 60,513	\$ 60,513	\$ 63,539	5.00%	\$ 63,539	0.00%
GRF	747501	Korean War Veterans	\$ 54,397	\$ 54,398	\$ 57,118	5.00%	\$ 57,118	0.00%
GRF	748501	Jewish War Veterans	\$ 32,687	\$ 32,687	\$ 34,321	5.00%	\$ 34,321	0.00%
GRF	749501	Catholic War Veterans	\$ 63,789	\$ 63,789	\$ 66,978	5.00%	\$ 66,978	0.00%
GRF	750501	Military Order of the Purple Heart	\$ 62,015	\$ 62,015	\$ 65,116	5.00%	\$ 65,116	0.00%
GRF	751501	Vietnam Veterans of America	\$ 204,549	\$ 204,549	\$ 214,776	5.00%	\$ 214,776	0.00%
GRF	752501	American Legion of Ohio	\$ 332,561	\$ 332,561	\$ 349,189	5.00%	\$ 349,189	0.00%
GRF	753501	Amvets	\$ 316,711	\$ 316,711	\$ 332,547	5.00%	\$ 332,547	0.00%
GRF	754501	Disabled American Veterans	\$ 237,939	\$ 237,939	\$ 249,836	5.00%	\$ 249,836	0.00%
GRF	756501	Marine Corps League	\$ 127,569	\$ 127,569	\$ 133,947	5.00%	\$ 133,947	0.00%
GRF	757501	37th Division Veterans' Association	\$ 6,541	\$ 6,541	\$ 6,868	5.00%	\$ 6,868	0.00%
GRF	758501	Veterans of Foreign Wars	\$ 271,277	\$ 271,277	\$ 284,841	5.00%	\$ 284,841	0.00%
General Revenue Fund Total			\$ 1,798,081	\$ 1,798,082	\$ 1,887,986	5.00%	\$ 1,887,986	0.00%
Veterans' Organizations Total			\$ 1,798,081	\$ 1,798,082	\$ 1,887,986	5.00%	\$ 1,887,986	0.00%