

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO REENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2025

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on pages 1110 and 1111 of the Senate Journal and pages 1299 and 1300 of the House Journal and that Reengrossed Senate Bill No. 2025 be amended as follows:

Page 1, replace lines 12 through 19 with:

"Veterans' affairs	\$1,379,982	(\$211,967)	\$1,168,015
Agent orange	50,000	(50,000)	0
State approving agency	288,018	(16,020)	271,998
Grants - transportation program	0	1,719,520	1,719,520
Transport vans	<u>0</u>	<u>37,200</u>	<u>37,200</u>
Total all funds	\$1,718,000	\$1,478,733	\$3,196,733
Less estimated income	<u>288,018</u>	<u>1,803,553</u>	<u>2,091,571</u>
Total general fund	\$1,429,982	(\$324,820)	\$1,105,162
Full-time equivalent positions	9.00	(2.00)	7.00

**SECTION 2. HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASES.** The salaries and wages line item in section 1 of this Act includes the sum of \$18,581, of which \$15,431 is from the general fund, for increases in employee health insurance premiums from \$1,130 to \$1,241 per month."

Page 1, remove line 23

Page 2, replace lines 1 and 2 with:

"Service dogs	\$50,000	\$0
Desktop support hardware	26,895	0
Transport vans	<u>0</u>	<u>18,600</u>
Total general fund	\$76,895	\$18,600

The 2017-19 one-time funding amounts are not a part of the entity's base budget for the 2019-21 biennium. The department of veterans' affairs shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-sixth legislative assembly on the use of this one-time funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019."

Re-number accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

**Senate Bill No. 2025 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - Conference Committee Action**

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
Veterans' affairs	\$1,379,982	\$1,314,224	(\$146,209)	\$1,168,015	\$1,168,015	
State approving agency	288,018	272,240	(242)	271,998	271,998	
Agent orange	50,000					
Grants - transportation program		1,719,520		1,719,520	1,719,520	
Service Dogs		50,000		50,000	25,000	25,000
Transport vans			37,200	37,200	37,200	
Total all funds	\$1,718,000	\$3,355,984	(\$109,251)	\$3,246,733	\$3,221,733	\$25,000
Less estimated income	<u>288,018</u>	<u>2,091,817</u>	<u>(246)</u>	<u>2,091,571</u>	<u>2,091,571</u>	<u>0</u>
General fund	\$1,429,982	\$1,264,167	(\$109,005)	\$1,155,162	\$1,130,162	\$25,000
FTE	9.00	8.00	(1.00)	7.00	7.00	0.00

**Department No. 321 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - Detail of Conference Committee Changes**

	Adjusts Funding for Health Insurance Increases <sup>1</sup>	Removes 1 FTE Position <sup>2</sup>	Adjusts Funding for Transport Vans <sup>3</sup>	Adds One-Time Funding for Transport Vans <sup>4</sup>	Total Conference Committee Changes
Veterans' affairs	(\$1,209)	(\$130,000)	(\$15,000)		(\$146,209)
State approving agency	(242)				(242)
Agent orange					
Grants - transportation program					
Service Dogs					
Transport vans			18,600	18,600	37,200
Total all funds	(\$1,451)	(\$130,000)	\$3,600	\$18,600	(\$109,251)
Less estimated income	(246)	0	0	0	(246)
General fund	(\$1,205)	(\$130,000)	\$3,600	\$18,600	(\$109,005)
FTE	0.00	(1.00)	0.00	0.00	(1.00)

<sup>1</sup> Funding for employee health insurance is adjusted to reflect the updated premium amount of \$1,241 per month.

<sup>2</sup> One FTE position and related funding is removed, the same as the House version. The Senate also removed 1 FTE position, resulting in a total of 2 FTE positions removed from the base budget.

<sup>3</sup> Funding of \$15,000 from the general fund is moved from the veterans' affairs line item to a transport vans line item. An additional \$3,600 is added from the general fund to the transport vans line item to provide funding for one van in the department's base budget, the same as the House version.

<sup>4</sup> One-time funding of \$18,600 is added from the general fund for an additional transport van, resulting in total funding of \$37,200 for two transport vans, the same as the House version. The Senate approved funding of \$15,000 for transport vans.

This amendment also:

- Adds a section to identify the amount of funding included in the bill for the increase in employee health insurance premiums.
- Restores \$25,000 from the general fund for the purpose of training up to two service dogs to assist North Dakota veterans with post traumatic stress disorder, to provide a total of \$50,000 from the general fund for up to four service dogs, the same as the Senate version. The House approved a total of \$25,000 from the general fund to provide training for up to two service dogs.