

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2025 - Funding Summary

	Base Budget	Final Legislative Action	Comparison to Base Budget
Department of Veterans' Affairs			
Veterans' affairs	\$1,379,982	\$1,168,015	(\$211,967)
State approving agency	288,018	271,998	(16,020)
Agent orange	50,000		(50,000)
Grants - transportation program		1,719,520	1,719,520
Service Dogs		50,000	50,000
Transport vans		37,200	37,200
Total all funds	\$1,718,000	\$3,246,733	\$1,528,733
Less estimated income	288,018	2,091,571	1,803,553
General fund	\$1,429,982	\$1,155,162	(\$274,820)
FTE	9.00	7.00	(2.00)
Bill Total			
Total all funds	\$1,718,000	\$3,246,733	\$1,528,733
Less estimated income	288,018	2,091,571	1,803,553
General fund	\$1,429,982	\$1,155,162	(\$274,820)
FTE	9.00	7.00	(2.00)

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

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
Veterans' affairs	\$1,379,982	(\$65,758)	\$1,314,224
State approving agency	288,018	(15,778)	272,240
Agent orange	50,000	(50,000)	
Grants - transportation program		1,719,520	1,719,520
Service Dogs		50,000	50,000
Total all funds	\$1,718,000	\$1,637,984	\$3,355,984
Less estimated income	288,018	1,803,799	2,091,817
General fund	\$1,429,982	(\$165,815)	\$1,264,167
FTE	9.00	(1.00)	8.00

Department 321 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Base Payroll Changes¹	Adds Funding for Health Insurance Increases²	Adjusts Funding for Administrative Positions³	Removes 1 FTE Position⁴	Adjusts Base Level Funding⁵	Adds Funding for Transportation Program⁶
Veterans' affairs	37,290	22,418		(130,000)	4,534	
State approving agency	(32,972)	3,338			13,856	
Agent orange					(50,000)	
Grants - transportation program						1,719,520
Service Dogs						
Total all funds	\$4,318	\$25,756	\$0	(\$130,000)	(\$31,610)	\$1,719,520
Less estimated income	(32,972)	3,395	100,000	0	13,856	1,719,520
General fund	\$37,290	\$22,361	(\$100,000)	(\$130,000)	(\$45,466)	\$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1.00)	0.00	0.00

	Adds Funding for Service Dogs⁷	Total Senate Changes
Veterans' affairs		(65,758)
State approving agency		(15,778)
Agent orange		(50,000)
Grants - transportation program		1,719,520
Service Dogs	50,000	50,000
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Total all funds	\$50,000	\$1,637,984
Less estimated income	0	1,803,799
General fund	\$50,000	(\$165,815)
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FTE	0.00	(1.00)

¹ Funding is adjusted for cost-to-continue 2015-17 biennium salaries and benefit increases and for other base payroll changes.

² Funding is added for increases in health insurance premiums from \$1,130 to \$1,249 per month.

³ Funding is adjusted for administrative positions to reduce funding from the general fund and increase federal funds through a rural transportation grant.

⁴ One FTE position and related funding is removed.

⁵ Base level funding is adjusted as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Reduces funding for operating expenses	(\$2,106)	\$0	(\$2,106)
Removes funding for stand down events	(20,000)	0	(20,000)
Restores funding for desktop support services	26,640	0	26,640
Removes funding for Agent Orange program	(50,000)	0	(50,000)
Increases federal funding for the state approving agency operating expenses	0	13,856	13,856
Total	(\$45,466)	\$13,856	(\$31,610)

⁶ Federal funding is increased from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Rural Health, highly rural area program to provide a grant for the purchase of wheelchair accessible vans and to provide for temporary salaries and operating expenses.

⁷ An appropriation section is added providing funding to train up to four service dogs to assist veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder.

Senate Bill No. 2025 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
Veterans' affairs	\$1,379,982	\$1,314,224	(\$146,209)	\$1,168,015
State approving agency	288,018	272,240	(242)	271,998
Agent orange	50,000			
Grants - transportation program		1,719,520		1,719,520
Service Dogs		50,000	(25,000)	25,000
Transport vans			37,200	37,200
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Total all funds	\$1,718,000	\$3,355,984	(\$134,251)	\$3,221,733
Less estimated income	288,018	2,091,817	(246)	2,091,571
General fund	\$1,429,982	\$1,264,167	(\$134,005)	\$1,130,162
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FTE	9.00	8.00	(1.00)	7.00

Department 321 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - Detail of House Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Health Insurance Increases ¹	Removes 1 FTE Position ²	Adjusts Funding for Service Dogs ³	Adjusts Funding for Transport Vans ⁴	Adds One-Time Funding for Transport Vans ⁵	Total House Changes
Veterans' affairs	(1,209)	(130,000)		(15,000)		(146,209)
State approving agency	(242)					(242)
Agent orange						
Grants - transportation program						
Service Dogs			(25,000)			(25,000)
Transport vans				18,600	18,600	37,200
Total all funds	(\$1,451)	(\$130,000)	(\$25,000)	\$3,600	\$18,600	(\$134,251)
Less estimated income	(246)	0	0	0	0	(246)
General fund	(\$1,205)	(\$130,000)	(\$25,000)	\$3,600	\$18,600	(\$134,005)
FTE	0.00	(1.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1.00)

¹ Funding for employee health insurance in adjusted to reflect the updated premium amount of \$1,241 per month.

² Funding for 1 FTE position and related funding is removed. The Senate also removed 1 FTE position, resulting in a total of 2 FTE positions removed from the base budget.

³ Funding for service dogs training is reduced by \$25,000 from the general fund, to provide a total of \$25,000 for training up to two service dogs to assist North Dakota veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder. The Senate provided \$50,000 to train up to four service dogs. Section 4 is also adjusted to reflect this revised amount.

⁴ 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 also added from the general fund to the transport vans line item.

⁵ One-time funding of \$18,600 is added from the general fund for transport vans, resulting in total funding of \$37,200 for transport vans. The cost to purchase a transport van is approximately \$18,600. As amended by the House, the Department of Veterans' Affairs has authority to purchase two transport vans during the 2017-19 biennium, using \$18,600 of ongoing funding and \$18,600 of one-time funding. 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.

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	288,018	2,091,817	(246)	2,091,571	2,091,571	0
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 321 - Department of Veterans' Affairs - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Health Insurance Increases¹	Removes 1 FTE Position²	Adjusts Funding for Transport Vans³	Adds One-Time Funding for Transport Vans⁴	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)

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

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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 training up to two service dogs to assist North Dakota veterans with posttraumatic 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.