FY 2012-13: MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Summary: Conference Report

Senate Bill 959 (S-1) CR-1



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* Information in this document labeled "House" reflects Article XIII of House Bill 5365 (H-2) as amended, as passed by the House.

		FY 2012-13			Difference: Conference		
	FY 2011-12 YTD	Revised	FY 2012-13	FY 2012-13	FY 2012-13	From FY 2011-12	
	as of 2/9/12	Executive	House	Senate	Conference	Amount	%
IDG/IDT	\$3,963,300	\$1,166,500	\$11,166,500	\$1,166,500	\$1,166,500	(2,796,800)	(70.6)
Federal	87,877,900	99,239,400	99,239,400	99,239,400	99,239,400	11,361,500	12.9
Local	765,600	769,200	769,200	1,503,600	1,503,600	738,000	96.4
Private	1,448,000	1,503,700	1,503,700	1,503,700	1,503,700	55,700	3.8
Restricted	28,506,400	30,427,000	30,427,000	30,427,000	30,427,000	1,920,600	6.7
GF/GP	33,983,700	34,733,400	34,411,600	34,733,400	38,233,400	4,249,700	12.5
Gross	\$156,544,900	\$167,839,200	\$177,517,400	\$168,573,600	\$172,073,600	\$15,528,700	9.9
FTEs	826.0	826.0	826.0	841.0	842.0	16.0	1.9

Notes: (1) FY 2011-12 year-to-date (YTD) figures include mid-year budget adjustments through February 9, 2012, as well as adjustments for Other Post Employment Benefit prefunding under Senate Bill 683, 2012 PA 64.

Overview

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has three primary missions: to execute duties as specified in various state statutes and by the Governor, to administer state regulated services, and to ensure preparedness of the Michigan National Guard to assist both state and federal authorities. The Michigan National Guard serves to protect the lives and property of Michigan citizens during times of natural disaster and civil unrest, to preserve peace, order, and public safety at the direction of the Governor, and to assist the federal government in defending sovereign interests of the United States when they are threatened or violated. The department also oversees state programs for veterans, the state's veterans' homes in Grand Rapids and Marquette, grants to veterans service organizations, and the Michigan Veterans' Trust Fund.

Bill Structure

House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.

The current year bill contains four line items, in four appropriation units, and 27 corresponding scheduled programs. The conference report contains 15 line items, in five appropriation units, and 23 corresponding scheduled programs. Boilerplate sections in the conference report have been rearranged, where necessary, to correspond with new appropriation unit titles.

Major Budget Changes From FY 2011-12 YTD Appropriations		FY 2011-12 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/12)	FY 2012-13 Conference <u>Change</u>
1. Armory Maintenance Executive includes an additional on-going appropriation of \$2.4 million GF/GP to address the backlog of special maintenance projects at the state's 43 armories. House includes an additional on-going appropriation of \$2.0 million GF/GP. The difference between the Executive and House is \$446,800. Of that, \$321,800 is reduced from the Executive recommendation in order to meet House GF/GP targets and \$125,000 is reduced in order to hold the veterans service organization grants harmless and fund the Veterans Certification Officer proposed by the Executive. (See #4 and #5 below) Senate concurs with Executive. Conference concurs with Executive.	Gross	\$651,200	\$2,400,000
	GF/GP	\$651,200	\$2,400,000
2. Military Retirement Program Executive includes an additional \$150,000 GF/GP to cover full-year costs of mandatory retirement payments required pursuant to 1967 PA 150, the Michigan Military Act, and then transfers all costs associated with the Military Retirement program to the Office of Retirement Services within the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (\$3,981,700 GF/GP).	FTE	1.0	(1.0)
	Gross	\$3,831,700	(\$3,831,700)
	GF/GP	\$3,831,700	(\$ 3,831,700)

5/30/2012 House Fiscal Agency 1

⁽²⁾ Appropriation figures for all years include all proposed appropriation amounts, including both standard line items and appropriations designated as one-time.

Major Budget Changes From FY 2011-12 YTD Appropriations		FY 2011-12 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/12)	FY 2012-13 Conference <u>Change</u>
3. Additional Funding for Unclassified Positions Executive reflects a transfer of \$500,000 GF/GP to Unclassified Military Personnel to fully fund current unclassified positions. (\$200,000 GF/GP is transferred from Headquarters and Armories, \$150,000 GF/GP from the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home, and \$150,000 GF/GP from the D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home) House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs with additional funding and adjusts the number of unclassified positions in the bill to match the number currently on payroll.	FTE	7.0	1.0
	Gross	\$665,000	\$500,000
	GF/GP	\$665,000	\$500,000
4. Veterans Affairs Directorate Administration Executive reflects a transfer of \$125,000 GF/GP to fund a Veterans Affairs Certification Officer and \$125,000 GF/GP to cover a funding shortfall. (\$125,000 GF/GP is transferred from veterans service organization grants, \$75,000 GF/GP from the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home, and \$50,000 GF/GP from the D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home) House concurs, but transfers the \$125,000 GF/GP for the Veterans Affairs Certification Officer from the Special Maintenance - State line item instead of from the veterans service organization grants. Senate concurs with Executive. Conference concurs with Executive.	FTE	2.0	1.0
	Gross	\$205,300	\$250,000
	GF/GP	\$205,300	\$250,000
5. Veterans Service Organization Grants Executive reduces grant funding for veterans service organizations by \$125,000 GF/GP and transfers the funding to the Veterans Affairs Directorate Administration. House does not reduce grant funding for veterans service organizations. (See #4 above) Senate reduces grant funding by \$125,200 GF/GP; transfers \$125,000 to the Veterans Affairs Directorate Administration and uses \$200 to create two \$100 placeholders. (See #20 below). Conference concurs with Executive.	Gross	\$3,029,600	(\$125,000)
	GF/GP	\$3,029,600	(\$125,000)
6. Transfers to Fund Increases Executive reduces funding by \$225,000 GF/GP for the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home, by \$200,000 GF/GP for the D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home, and by \$200,000 GF/GP for Headquarters and Armories and transfers the funding to Unclassified Military Personnel and Veterans Affairs Directorate Administration. House concurs. Senate concurs. (See #3 and #4 above). Conference concurs with Executive.	Gross	N/A	(\$625,000)
	GF/GP	N/A	(\$625,000)
7. Grand Rapids Veterans' Home Restricted Funding Executive reduces the budget to more accurately reflect the amount of Income and Assessment revenue received at the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross Restricted	\$16,176,500 16,176,500	(\$2,000,000) (2,000,000)
8. D. J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home Fund Source Shift Executive increases the federal Veterans Health Administration fund source and reduces the Income and Assessments fund source at the D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home to more accurately reflect the amount of revenue received at the home. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross Federal Restricted	\$11,450,900 6,137,700 5,313,200	\$0 250,000 (250,000)
9. Federal Revenue Adjustment Executive increases federal funding authorization by \$225,000 for the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home and by \$200,000 and for the D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home in order to reflect the amount of federal funding being made available. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross	\$24,294,100	\$425,000
	Federal	24,294,100	425,000
10. Savings from Privatization of Staff Executive reflects a reduction of \$921,300 GF/GP in anticipation of additional savings resulting from privatizing resident care aide positions at the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross	N/A	(\$921,300)
	GF/GP	N/A	(\$921,300)
11. Economic Adjustments Executive includes \$1.6 million Gross (\$546,800 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage increases, the actuarially-required retirement rate increase, reduced employer health insurance costs due to the 20% employee contribution, workers' compensation costs, and food and fuel costs. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross IDG Federal Private Restricted GF/GP	N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A	\$1,564,400 (2,797,500) 2,979,000 51,500 784,600 \$546,800

Major Budget Changes From FY 2011-12 YTD Appropriations		FY 2011-12 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/12)	FY 2012-13 Conference <u>Change</u>
12. Remove One-Time Capital Outlay Funding Executive removes one-time Capital Outlay funding appropriated in the FY 2011-12 budget for construction of a light demolition range at Camp Grayling. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross Federal	\$1,700,000 1,700,000	(\$1,700,000) (1,700,000)
13. One-Time Appropriations - Capital Outlay - Replace Flint Armory Executive includes one-time funding for construction of a new armory in Flint, to replace the existing 87-year-old facility. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross	\$0	\$12,000,000
	Federal	0	9,000,000
	Restricted	0	3,000,000
14. One-Time Appropriations - Capital Outlay - Land Acquisitions and Appraisals Executive includes authorization for the department to spend up to \$250,000 on land acquisitions and appraisals should land become available. House concurs. Senate concurs. Conference concurs.	Gross	\$0	\$250,000
	Restricted	O	250,000
15. One-Time Appropriations - Employee Lump Sum Payments Executive includes a one-time appropriation, in boilerplate section 13-701, of \$707,900 Gross (\$155,900 GF/GP) for the negotiated one-time lump sum payments to state employees. House concurs, but appropriates the funding in a line item. Senate concurs with House. Conference concurs with House.	Gross IDG Federal Local Private Restricted GF/GP	NA NA NA NA NA NA NA	\$707,900 700 407,500 3,600 4,200 136,000 \$155,900
16. One-Time Appropriations - Special Maintenance State Executive includes a one-time appropriation, in boilerplate section 13-701, of \$2.4 million GF/GP for addressing the backlog of special maintenance projects at the state's 43 armories. House concurs with the \$2.4 million GF/GP, includes an additional \$324,800 in IDG funding being made available from the Department of Human Services, and appropriates the funding in a line item. Senate concurs with Executive, but appropriates the funding in a line item. Conference concurs with Senate.	Gross	\$0	\$2,400,000
	IDG	0	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$2,400,000
17. One-Time Appropriations - Special Maintenance and Remodeling Grand Rapids Veterans' Home House includes a one-time line item appropriation of \$4.4 million for special maintenance projects at the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home to be funded with IDG funding being made available from the Department of Human Services. Senate does not include. Conference includes \$1.6 million GF/GP.	Gross	\$0	\$1,600,000
	IDG	0	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$1,600,000
18. One-Time Appropriations - Special Maintenance and Remodeling	Gross	\$0	\$516,000
D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home House includes a one-time line item appropriation of \$1.6 million for special maintenance projects at the D. J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home to be funded with IDG funding being made available from the Department of Human Services. Senate does not include. Conference includes \$516,000 GF/GP.	IDG GF/GP	0 \$0	\$516,000
19. One-Time Appropriations - Veterans Advice, Advocacy and Assistance Grants House includes a one-time line item appropriation of \$2.0 million for veterans service organization grants to be funded with IDG funding being made available from the Department of Human Services. Senate does not include. Conference does not include.	Gross	\$0	\$0
	IDG	O	0

Major Budget Changes From FY 2011-12 YTD Appropriations		Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/12)	Conference Change
20. One-Time Appropriations - Veterans Service Enhancements House includes a one-time line item appropriation of \$1.7 million for Michigan Veterans Coalition initiatives to be funded with IDG funding being made available from the Department of Human Services. Proposed initiatives include: establishing and implementing a college campus program to assist veterans on campus with enrolling in the veterans affairs health care system and with filing claims for disabilities; and implementing an Internet-based data system, in collaboration with the Michigan Association of County Veterans Counselors, to ensure that Michigan's veterans and their families receive professional assistance, advocacy, and counseling to obtain and receive benefits. Senate includes two \$100 GF/GP placeholders, one for each of the initiatives. Conference includes \$434,000 GF/GP total for the two initiatives.	Gross	\$0	\$434,000
	IDG	0	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$434,000
21. One-Time Appropriations - County Counselor Accreditation House includes a \$100 placeholder for a pilot grant program for counties to fund additional accredited veterans service officers. The intent is for grants to be made available to Kent County, Wayne County, and other underserved counties based on need of veterans services. Senate does not include. Conference includes \$200,000 GF/GP, does not reference as a pilot program, and deletes references to Kent and Wayne Counties.	Gross	\$0	\$200,000
	IDG	0	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$200,000
22. One-Time Appropriations - Department Data Upgrades and Digitization House includes a \$100 placeholder for department data upgrades and digitization of all medical records and military discharge documents. Senate does not include. Conference includes \$750,000 GF/GP.	Gross	\$0	\$750,000
	IDG	0	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$750,000
23. Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Program Senate includes additional FTE positions and funding for the Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Program. Conference concurs.	FTE	25.0	15.0
	Gross	\$4,186,900	\$734,400
	Local	4,186,900	734,400

FY 2011-12

FY 2012-13

24. Anticipated FY 2013-14 Budget Changes

<u>House</u>, <u>Senate</u>, and <u>Conference</u> include an anticipated increase in funding from the FY 2012-13 levels of \$2.4 million Gross (\$535,600 GF/GP) for economic adjustments in FY 2013-14. (Boilerplate intent language only; would not be binding appropriations.)

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2011-12

GENERAL SECTIONS OF BOILERPLATE

Sec. 207. Transparency Website - REVISED

Requires the department to maintain a searchable website accessible by the public at no cost that includes expenditure data, data on payments made to vendors, and data on number of active employees, job specifications, and wage rates. <u>Executive</u> revises to require DTMB to maintain the website. <u>House</u> retains requirement for department to maintain the website. <u>Senate</u> deletes. <u>Conference</u> revises to require the department to provide the necessary data to DTMB so DTMB can maintain the website.

Sec. 211. Information Technology Work Project Account - DELETED

Designates the appropriation for information technology as a work project account. <u>Executive</u> deletes. <u>House</u> retains. <u>Senate</u> deletes. Conference deletes.

Sec. 213. Out-of-State Travel Restrictions - REVISED

Limits out-of-state travel; authorizes the State Budget Director to grant exceptions to allow travel; requires a monthly report on the number of exceptions granted. <u>Executive</u> deletes. <u>House</u> deletes this section, but includes new language which requires departments and agencies to report on out-of-state travel expenses, listing all travel by all employees outside of this state that is funded in whole or in part with funds appropriated to the departments/agencies. Senate retains current law. Conference includes revised House language as section 218.

Sec. 214. Information Technology Services – DELETED

Requires the department to pay user fees to DTMB for technology-related services and projects. <u>Executive</u> deletes. <u>House</u> retains. <u>Senate</u> deletes. <u>Conference</u> deletes.

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2011-12

Sec. 218. GF/GP Savings from Department Incentive Pool - DELETED

Requires unused GF/GP obtained as a result of efficiencies to be designated as the department incentive pool balance; requires funds associated with GF/GP supplemental requests to be debited against the department incentive pool balance if supplemental requests do not meet specified criteria; specifies how the positive year-end balance of the department incentive pool balance shall be allocated. Executive deletes. House deletes. Senate deletes. Conference deletes.

Sec. 219. Meetings to Report on Achieving Requirements - REVISED

Requires the department to be available to meet quarterly with the subcommittees to provide information as evidence of validating that all requirements in the bill have been achieved. <u>Executive</u> deletes. <u>House</u> retains and revises meeting requirement to biannually, by April 1 and September 30. <u>Senate</u> retains current law. <u>Conference</u> revises to quarterly reporting requirement.

MILITARY

Sec. 300. Unclassified Positions - NEW

Lists titles of unclassified positions currently in the department; requires the department to notify the subcommittees prior to submitting requests for additional unclassified positions or requests for substantive changes to the duties of existing unclassified positions. <u>Conference</u> includes new language.

Sec. 302. National Guard Armories - REVISED

Requires the department to properly operate and maintain armories in the state. <u>Senate</u> adds requirement that the department establish a system that measures the condition and adequacy of armory facilities, and identify and upgrade 15 red armories to yellow or green facilities. Conference concurs with Senate.

VETERANS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sec. 401. Veterans Advice, Advocacy, and Assistance - REVISED

Requires the department to provide advice, advocacy, and assistance services to veterans, to maintain proper levels of staffing and resources, to distribute grant funding, to take steps to improve coordination of veterans benefits counseling, and to increase its responsibility in administration, management, oversight, and outreach of delivery of services. Senate adds requirement that the department increase the percentage of veterans who become aware of their eligibility for education benefits, and increase the percentage of veterans who become aware of job training and placement opportunities. Conference concurs with Senate.

HOMES

Sec. 501. (2) Veterans' Homes - REVISED

Requires the department to provide resources necessary to provide adequate nursing care services to a licensed maximum capacity of 618 skilled nursing and 140 domiciliary beds at the Grand Rapids Veterans' Home and 182 skilled nursing and 59 domiciliary beds at the D.J. Jacobetti Veterans' Home. Executive deletes. House retains and revises by deleting the maximum capacity of beds and including a minimum capacity. Conference concurs with Senate (now Sec. 601).

Sec. 602. Michigan Veterans' Facility Ombudsman - NEW

Specifies legislative intent for establishing a Michigan Veterans' Facility Ombudsman; specifies duties and responsibilities of the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman's purpose will be to conduct investigations concerning actions or omission of actions or conditions at the veterans' homes which are alleged to be contrary to law or policy or that pose a significant health or safety issue. Executive does not include. House includes. Senate does not include. Conference includes.

CAPITAL OUTLAY AND ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 703. Special Maintenance and Remodeling at the Veterans' Homes - NEW

Requires appropriations to be used for maintenance, remodeling, and information technology needs at the homes; specifies that maintenance includes improvements to the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and security systems, roof repairs and replacements, energy conservation measures, lighting upgrades, repair and replacement of floors, pipe insulation, windows, boilers, new and upgraded fire detection and suppression systems, and other repairs, upgrades, and renovation projects; requires the homes to report on their plans for expending the one-time appropriations. Executive does not include. House includes. Senate does not include. Conference includes.

Sec. 704. Veterans Service Enhancements - NEW

Requires appropriation to be used to establish and implement a college campus program, in collaboration with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs vocational rehabilitation program, to assist veterans on campus with enrolling in the veterans affairs health care system and with filing claims for disabilities; requires appropriation to be used to implement an Internet-based data system, in collaboration with the Michigan Association of County Veterans Counselors, to ensure Michigan's veterans and their families receive professional assistance, advocacy, and counseling in obtaining and receiving benefits. <u>Executive</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> includes.

Sec. 705. County Counselor Accreditation - NEW

Requires the department to develop an application and grant process to fund accredited veterans service officers; requires grants to be made available to underserved counties, based on need of veterans services. Executive does not include. House includes. Senate does not include. Conference includes.

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2011-12

Sec. 706. Department Data Upgrades and Digitization - NEW

Requires the department to digitize all medical records and military discharge documents which are currently on paper and microfilm. <u>Executive</u> does not include. <u>House</u> includes. <u>Senate</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> includes.

ANTICIPATED APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 1201. Anticipated FY 2013-14 Appropriations - NEW

States legislative intent to provide appropriations for FY 2013-14, adjusting FY 2012-13 amounts based on economic and other factors. (See item #24 under Major Budget Changes for specific anticipated appropriation adjustments.)