

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 5509**

A bill to make appropriations for the department of military and veterans affairs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025; and to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

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PART 1

LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of military and veterans affairs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025 from the following funds:

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated unclassified positions	9.0
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Full-time equated classified positions	1,051.0
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1	GROSS APPROPRIATION		\$	267,552,300
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:			
3	Total interdepartmental grants and			
4	intradepartmental transfers			101,800
5	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION		\$	267,450,500
6	Federal revenues:			
7	Total federal revenues			144,036,800
8	Special revenue funds:			
9	Total local revenues			0
10	Total private revenues			100,000
11	Total other state restricted revenues			13,221,400
12	State general fund/general purpose		\$	110,092,300
13	Sec. 102. MILITARY			
14	Full-time equated unclassified positions	9.0		
15	Full-time equated classified positions	418.5		
16	Unclassified salaries--FTEs	9.0	\$	1,823,400
17	Headquarters and armories--FTEs	103.0		22,291,800
18	Michigan youth challenge academy--FTEs	68.0		10,340,500
19	Military family relief fund			150,000
20	Military retirement			2,770,600
21	Military training sites and support facilities--			
22	-FTEs	244.0		45,568,900
23	National Guard operations			600,500
24	National Guard tuition assistance fund--FTEs	3.5		5,739,500
25	Starbase grant			2,322,000
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION		\$	91,607,200
27	Appropriated from:			
28	Interdepartmental grant revenues:			

1	IDG - state police		101,800
2	Federal revenues:		
3	DOD - DOA - NGB		63,690,100
4	Federal counternarcotics revenues		100,000
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	Private donations		90,000
7	Billeting fund		1,378,200
8	Military family relief fund		150,000
9	Morale, welfare, and recreation fund		100,000
10	National Guard facilities rental fund		187,500
11	National Guard test projects fund		100,000
12	State general fund/general purpose	\$	25,709,600
13	Sec. 103. MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY		
14	Full-time equated classified positions	61.0	
15	County veteran service grants--FTEs	2.0	\$ 4,253,300
16	Eliminating veteran homelessness grants		3,500,000
17	Michigan veterans affairs agency		
18	administration--FTEs	49.0	9,400,600
19	Veterans service grants--FTEs	2.0	4,253,300
20	Veterans trust fund administration--FTEs	8.0	1,175,300
21	Veterans trust fund grants		2,500,000
22	Veterans trust fund grants - peacetime veterans		100
23	GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$	25,082,600
24	Appropriated from:		
25	Special revenue funds:		
26	Private donations		10,000
27	Michigan veterans trust fund		3,675,300
28	Veterans license plate fund		50,000

1	State general fund/general purpose		\$ 21,347,300
2	Sec. 104. MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITY AUTHORITY		
3	Full-time equated classified positions	571.5	
4	Chesterfield Township home for veterans--FTEs	115.0	\$ 32,511,400
5	D.J. Jacobetti home for veterans--FTEs	200.0	25,927,700
6	Grand Rapids home for veterans--FTEs	238.0	38,827,500
7	Information technology services and projects		1,734,300
8	Michigan veteran homes administration--FTEs	18.0	4,622,600
9	Veterans cemetery--FTE	0.5	90,200
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION		\$ 103,713,700
11	Appropriated from:		
12	Federal revenues:		
13	USDVA - VHA		39,864,200
14	HHS-HCFA, Medicare, hospital insurance		1,754,700
15	HHS-HCFA, title XIX, Medicaid		8,469,900
16	Special revenue funds:		
17	Income and assessments		6,580,400
18	State general fund/general purpose		\$ 47,044,500
19	Sec. 105. CAPITAL OUTLAY		
20	Armory maintenance		\$ 1,000,000
21	Land and acquisitions		1,000,000
22	Special maintenance - National Guard		30,000,000
23	Special maintenance - veterans' facilities		500,000
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION		\$ 32,500,000
25	Appropriated from:		
26	Federal revenues:		
27	DOD - DOA - NGB		30,000,000
28	Special revenue funds:		

1	Michigan National Guard construction fund		1,000,000
2	State general fund/general purpose	\$	1,500,000
3	Sec. 106. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY		
4	Information technology services and projects	\$	648,700
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$	648,700
6	Appropriated from:		
7	Federal revenues:		
8	DOD - DOA - NGB		157,900
9	State general fund/general purpose	\$	490,800
10	Sec. 107. ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS		
11	Eliminating veteran homelessness grants	\$	2,000,000
12	Selfridge Air National Guard base		10,000,100
13	Veterans of foreign wars national home		1,000,000
14	Veteran directory		100
15	VETS ride pilot program		999,900
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION	\$	14,000,100
17	Appropriated from:		
18	State general fund/general purpose	\$	14,000,100

PART 2

PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

GENERAL SECTIONS

24 Sec. 201. In accordance with section 30 of article IX of the
25 state constitution of 1963, for the fiscal year ending September
26 30, 2025, total state spending under part 1 from state sources is
27 \$123,313,700.00 and state spending under part 1 from state sources
28 to be paid to local units of government is \$4,674,700.00. The
29 following itemized statement identifies appropriations from which

1 spending to local units of government will occur:

2 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS		
3	County veteran service grants	\$ 4,038,200
4	Michigan veterans affairs agency administration	90,000
5	Military training sites and support facilities	46,500
6	VETS ride pilot program	500,000
7	TOTAL	\$ 4,674,700

8 Sec. 202. The appropriations under this part and part 1 are
 9 subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101
 10 to 18.1594.

11 Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

12 (a) "CMS" means the United States Department of Health and
 13 Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

14 (b) "Department" means the department of military and veterans
 15 affairs.

16 (c) "DHHS" means the department of health and human services.

17 (d) "Director" means the director of the department.

18 (e) "FTE" means full-time equated.

19 (f) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

20 (g) "MVAA" means the Michigan veterans affairs agency created
 21 by Executive Reorganization Order No. 2013-2, MCL 32.92.

22 (h) "MVFA" means the Michigan veterans' facility authority
 23 created under section 3 of the Michigan veterans' facility
 24 authority act, 2016 PA 560, MCL 36.103.

25 (i) "MVH" means the Michigan veteran homes as that term is
 26 defined in the Michigan veterans' facility authority act, 2016 PA
 27 560, MCL 36.102.

28 (j) "MYCA" means the Michigan youth challenge academy.

29 (k) "Standard report recipients" means the senate and house

1 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate
2 and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and
3 the state budget office.

4 (l) "USDVA" means the United States Department of Veterans
5 Affairs.

6 (m) "USDVA-VHA" means the USDVA Veterans Health
7 Administration.

8 (n) "VSO" means veterans service organization.

9 (o) "Veterans' facility" means that term as defined in section
10 2 of the Michigan veterans' facility authority act, 2016 PA 560,
11 MCL 36.102.

12 (p) "Work project" means that term as defined in section 404
13 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1404, and
14 that meets the criteria in section 451a(1) of the management and
15 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

16 Sec. 204. The department shall use the internet to fulfill the
17 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement includes
18 transmitting reports to the standard report recipients by email and
19 posting the reports on an internet site.

20 Sec. 205. To the extent permissible under section 261 of the
21 management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1261, all of the
22 following apply to the expenditure of funds appropriated in part 1:

23 (a) The funds must not be used for the purchase of foreign
24 goods or services, or both, if competitively priced and of
25 comparable quality American goods or services, or both, are
26 available.

27 (b) Preference must be given to goods or services, or both,
28 manufactured or provided by Michigan businesses, if they are
29 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

1 (c) Preference must be given to goods or services, or both,
2 that are manufactured or provided by Michigan businesses owned and
3 operated by veterans, if they are competitively priced and of
4 comparable quality.

5 Sec. 206. The department shall not take disciplinary action
6 against an employee of the department or a state agency for
7 communicating with a member of the legislature or legislative
8 staff, unless the communication is prohibited by law and the
9 department or agency is exercising its authority as provided by
10 law.

11 Sec. 207. Consistent with section 217 of the management and
12 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1217, the department shall prepare
13 a report on out-of-state travel expenses not later than January 1.
14 The report must list all travel by classified and unclassified
15 employees outside this state in the previous fiscal year that was
16 funded in whole or in part with funds appropriated in the
17 department's budget. The department shall submit the report to the
18 standard report recipients and to the senate and house
19 appropriations committees. The report must include all of the
20 following information:

21 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

22 (b) The total transportation and related expenses of each
23 travel occurrence and the proportion funded with state general
24 fund/general purpose revenues, state restricted revenues, federal
25 revenues, and other revenues.

26 Sec. 208. The department shall not use funds appropriated in
27 part 1 to hire a person to provide legal services that are the
28 responsibility of the attorney general. This section does not apply
29 to legal services for bonding activities or to outside legal

1 services that the attorney general authorizes.

2 Sec. 209. Not later than December 15, the state budget office
3 shall prepare and submit a report that provides estimates of the
4 total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the
5 close of the previous fiscal year. The report must summarize the
6 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation
7 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The state
8 budget office shall submit the report to the standard report
9 recipients and to the chairpersons of the senate and house
10 appropriations committees.

11 Sec. 210. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,
12 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$8,600,000.00 for
13 federal contingency authorization. These funds are not available
14 for expenditure until they have been transferred to another line
15 item in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget
16 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

17 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is
18 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000.00 for state
19 restricted contingency authorization. These funds are not available
20 for expenditure until they have been transferred to another line
21 item in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget
22 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

23 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is
24 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 for local
25 contingency authorization. These funds are not available for
26 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item
27 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,
28 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

29 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is

1 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for private
2 contingency authorization. These funds are not available for
3 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item
4 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,
5 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

6 Sec. 211. The department shall cooperate with the department
7 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable
8 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is
9 not limited to, all of the following for the department:

10 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

11 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

12 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,
13 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and
14 payment description.

15 (d) The number of active department employees by job
16 classification.

17 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

18 Sec. 212. Not later than 14 days after the release of the
19 executive budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate
20 with the state budget office to provide an annual report on
21 estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund
22 projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the
23 previous 2 fiscal years. The report must be submitted to the
24 standard report recipients and to the chairpersons of the senate
25 and house appropriations committees.

26 Sec. 214. (1) Funds appropriated in part 1 must not be used to
27 restrict or impede a marginalized community's access to government
28 resources, programs, or facilities.

29 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1, local governments

1 shall report any action or policy that attempts to restrict or
2 interfere with the duties of a local health officer.

3 Sec. 215. To the extent permissible under the management and
4 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594, the director shall
5 take all reasonable steps to ensure geographically-disadvantaged
6 business enterprises compete for and perform contracts to provide
7 services or supplies, or both. The director shall strongly
8 encourage firms with which the department contracts to subcontract
9 with geographically-disadvantaged business enterprises for
10 services, supplies, or both. As used in this section,
11 "geographically-disadvantaged business enterprises" means that term
12 as defined by Executive Directive No. 2019-08.

13 Sec. 216. On a quarterly basis, the department shall report on
14 the number of full-time equated positions in pay status by civil
15 service classification, including a comparison by line item of the
16 number of FTEs authorized from funds appropriated in part 1 to the
17 actual number of FTEs employed by the department at the end of the
18 reporting period. The report must be submitted to the senate and
19 house appropriations committees and to the standard report
20 recipients.

21 Sec. 217. It is the intent of the legislature that the
22 department maximize the efficiency of the state workforce and, if
23 possible, prioritize in-person work and post its in-person, remote,
24 or hybrid work policy on its website.

25 Sec. 219. The department shall receive and retain copies of
26 all reports funded from appropriations in part 1. The department
27 shall follow federal and state guidelines for short-term and long-
28 term retention of records. The department may electronically retain
29 copies of reports unless otherwise required by federal and state

1 guidelines.

2 Sec. 220. Not later than April 1, the department shall report
3 on each specific policy change made to implement a public act
4 affecting the department that took effect during the previous
5 calendar year. The department shall submit the report to the
6 standard report recipients, to the senate and house appropriations
7 committees, and to the joint committee on administrative rules.

8 Sec. 222. To the extent possible, the department shall not
9 expend appropriations under part 1 until all existing authorized
10 work project funds available for the same purposes are exhausted.

11 Sec. 223. Funds appropriated in part 1 for capital outlay must
12 be carried forward at the end of the fiscal year consistent with
13 section 248 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL
14 18.1248.

15 Sec. 224. If the department intends to sell any department
16 real property, the department shall submit notification of that
17 intent to the standard report recipients 60 days before the public
18 announcement of that intention.

19 Sec. 225. The department shall provide biannual reports that
20 include the following data:

21 (a) A list of all major work projects, including a status
22 report of each project.

23 (b) The department's financial status, featuring a report of
24 budgeted versus actual expenditures by part 1 line item, including
25 a year-end projection of budget requirements.

26 (c) The number of active employees at the close of the
27 reporting period by job classification and departmental branch of
28 service.

29 Sec. 229. The department shall annually submit an updated

1 departmental strategic plan to the senate and house appropriations
2 subcommittees on the department budget and the senate and house
3 fiscal agencies.

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5 **MILITARY**

6 Sec. 301. (1) Not later than September 30, the department
7 shall report a list of the current unclassified positions, which
8 shall include the official titles and responsibilities of each
9 position.

10 (2) Upon the department being granted a request for an
11 additional unclassified employee position from the civil service
12 commission, or for any substantive changes to the duties of an
13 existing unclassified employee position, the department shall
14 report on these changes within 15 days.

15 Sec. 302. (1) The department shall operate and maintain
16 National Guard armories and implement a system to measure the
17 condition and adequacy of those armories.

18 (2) Not later than December 1, the department shall evaluate
19 armories and submit an annual report on the status of the armories
20 that includes the following information:

21 (a) An assessment of the grounds and facilities of each armory
22 to objectively measure and determine the current facility condition
23 and capability to support authorized manpower, unit training, and
24 operations.

25 (b) Recommendations for the placement of new armories, the
26 relocation or consolidation of existing armories, or a change in
27 the mission of units assigned to armories to ideally position the
28 National Guard in current or projected population centers.

29 (c) Recommendations for the enhanced use of armories to

1 facilitate family support programs during deployments.

2 (d) An analysis of the feasibility, potential costs, and
3 benefits of use of armories shared with other local, state, or
4 federal agencies to improve responses to local emergencies as well
5 as the community support provided to armories.

6 (e) An investment strategy and proposed funding amounts in a
7 prioritized project list to correct the most critical facility
8 shortfalls across the inventory of armories in this state.

9 (f) A review of the status of construction activities and
10 expenditures of the armory modernization project funded in section
11 107 of article 10 of 2022 PA 166 and section 104 of 2022 PA 194.

12 Sec. 303. (1) The department shall maintain the MYCA to
13 provide values, skills, education, and self-discipline instruction
14 for at-risk youth as provided under 32 USC 509.

15 (2) The department shall take steps to recruit candidates to
16 the MYCA from economically-disadvantaged areas, including those
17 with low-income and high-unemployment backgrounds.

18 (3) The department shall partner with the DHHS to identify
19 youth who may be eligible for MYCA from those youth served by DHHS
20 services programs. The department shall give these eligible youth
21 priority for enrollment.

22 (4) The department shall maintain the MYCA to graduate at
23 least the target number of graduates consistent with the state's
24 cooperative agreement with the National Guard Bureau regarding
25 program operations.

26 (5) The department shall ensure individual academic success as
27 measured by the number of individuals who have received a general
28 equivalency diploma, high school diploma, or high school credit
29 recovery or by the improvement of tests of adult basic education

1 scores, or both.

2 (6) Any unexpended and unencumbered private donations to
3 support the MYCA at the close of this fiscal year do not lapse to
4 the general fund and must be carried forward to the subsequent
5 fiscal year.

6 Sec. 304. (1) By December 15, the department shall provide a
7 report on the revenues, expenditures, and fund balance of the
8 military family relief fund. The department shall itemize
9 expenditures in the report by purpose, including, but not limited
10 to, for advertising and assistance grants. The report must also
11 include information on the number of applications for assistance
12 received, approved, and denied.

13 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the department
14 shall provide outreach to the Michigan families of members of the
15 reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States called
16 into active duty on the availability of assistance through the
17 military family relief fund.

18 (3) As used in this section, "military family relief fund"
19 means the military relief fund created in section 3 of the military
20 family relief fund act, 2004 PA 363, MCL 35.1213.

21 Sec. 305. (1) The department shall do all of the following:

22 (a) Provide Army and Air National Guard forces, when directed,
23 for state and local emergencies and in support of national military
24 requirements.

25 (b) Operate and maintain Army National Guard training
26 facilities, including Fort Custer and Camp Grayling.

27 (c) Maintain a system that measures the condition and adequacy
28 of air facilities using both quality and functionality criteria.

29 (d) Operate and maintain Air National Guard air bases,

1 including Selfridge Air National Guard base, Battle Creek Air
2 National Guard base, and Alpena combat readiness training center.

3 (2) Not later than March 1, the department shall report the
4 following information for the previous calendar year:

5 (a) The apportioned and assigned strength of the Michigan Army
6 National Guard.

7 (b) The apportioned and assigned strength of the Michigan Air
8 National Guard.

9 (c) Recruiting, retention, and attrition data, including
10 measurement against stated performance goals, for the Michigan Army
11 National Guard.

12 (d) Recruiting, retention, and attrition data, including
13 measurement against stated performance goals, for the Michigan Air
14 National Guard.

15 Sec. 306. (1) The billeting fund is created within the state
16 treasury.

17 (2) The state treasurer shall deposit money and other assets
18 received from any source into the fund. The state treasurer shall
19 direct the investment of money in the fund and credit interest and
20 earnings from the investments to the fund.

21 (3) All of the fees and other revenues generated from the
22 operation of the chargeable transient quarters program must be
23 deposited in the fund.

24 (4) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year remains
25 in the fund and does not lapse to the general fund.

26 (5) The department is the administrator of the fund for
27 auditing purposes.

28 (6) The department shall expend money from the fund to support
29 program operations and the maintenance and operations of the

1 chargeable transient quarters program as appropriated in part 1.

2 (7) Not later than December 15, the department shall submit an
3 annual report of operations and expenditures regarding the fund for
4 the previous fiscal year.

5 Sec. 307. (1) The department shall maintain a Michigan
6 National Guard tuition assistance program under the Michigan
7 National Guard tuition assistance act, 2014 PA 259, MCL 32.431 to
8 32.433. The Michigan National Guard tuition assistance program must
9 do all of the following:

10 (a) Bolster military readiness by increasing recruitment and
11 retention of Michigan Army and Air National Guard members.

12 (b) Fill federally authorized strength levels for the state.

13 (c) Improve the Michigan Army and Air National Guard's
14 competitive draw from other military enlistment options in the
15 state.

16 (d) Enhance the ability of the Michigan Army and Air National
17 Guard to compete for guard members and federal dollars with
18 surrounding states.

19 (e) Increase the pool of eligible candidates within the
20 Michigan Army and Air National Guard to become commissioned
21 officers.

22 (2) The department shall make efforts to increase the number
23 of guard members who have received a credential or are still
24 enrolled in the Michigan National Guard tuition assistance program
25 after their initial term of enlistment. To evaluate the
26 effectiveness of the program, the department shall monitor the
27 number of new recruits and new reenlistments and the percentage of
28 those who become participants in the program to determine whether
29 the percentage of authorized Michigan Army and Air National Guard

1 strength obtained and retained is competitive in comparison with
2 the neighboring army and air national guards from Illinois,
3 Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

4 (3) Not later than March 1, the department shall provide a
5 report on the Michigan National Guard tuition assistance program.
6 The report must include the following information for the previous
7 fiscal year:

8 (a) The number of guard members, spouses, and children
9 receiving tuition assistance, broken down by the number of each
10 type of recipient.

11 (b) The educational institutions from which those guard
12 members received education or training under the program, broken
13 down by the number of each type of recipient.

14 (c) The total amount of financial assistance received by each
15 educational institution.

16 (d) The total funds expended on the program for financial
17 assistance for each type of recipient.

18 (e) The total funds expended on the program for administrative
19 costs of the department.

20 (f) The total number of applications for tuition assistance
21 denied.

22 (g) A list of any educational institutions and training
23 programs removed from eligibility and the rationale for that
24 removal.

25 (h) The balance of the Michigan National Guard tuition
26 assistance fund at the close of the fiscal year.

27 (i) An explanation of any identified barriers to the
28 successful utilization of the program, or other unmet needs of the
29 program and applicable proposals for legislative action to address

1 those barriers and needs.

2 (4) The general fund/general purpose funds appropriated in
3 part 1 for the National Guard tuition assistance fund must be
4 deposited into the restricted Michigan National Guard tuition
5 assistance fund. All funds in the restricted Michigan National
6 Guard tuition assistance fund are appropriated and available for
7 expenditure to support the Michigan National Guard tuition
8 assistance program.

9 (5) As used in this section, "Michigan National Guard tuition
10 assistance fund" means the Michigan National Guard tuition
11 assistance fund created in section 4 of the Michigan National Guard
12 tuition assistance act, 2014 PA 259, MCL 32.434.

13 Sec. 308. The department shall maintain the starbase program
14 at Air National Guard facilities, as provided under 10 USC 2193b,
15 to improve the knowledge, skills, and interest of students,
16 primarily in the fifth grade, in math, science, and technology. The
17 starbase program is to specifically target minority and at-risk
18 students for participation.

19 Sec. 309. (1) The National Guard test projects fund is created
20 within the state treasury.

21 (2) The state treasurer shall deposit money and other assets
22 received from any source into the fund. The state treasurer shall
23 direct the investment of money in the fund and credit interest and
24 earnings from the investments to the fund.

25 (3) All of the fees and other revenues generated from the
26 operation of the test projects program shall be deposited in the
27 fund.

28 (4) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year remains
29 in the fund and does not lapse to the general fund.

1 (5) The department is the administrator of the fund for
2 auditing purposes.

3 (6) Money in the fund shall be available for expenditure for
4 the support of program operations as appropriated in part 1.

5 Sec. 310. (1) The morale, welfare, and recreation fund is
6 created within the state treasury.

7 (2) The state treasurer shall deposit money and other assets
8 received from any source into the fund. The state treasurer shall
9 direct the investment of money in the fund and shall credit
10 interest and earnings from the investments to the fund.

11 (3) The department is the administrator of the fund for
12 auditing purposes.

13 (4) All of the fees and other revenues generated from the
14 operation of the morale, welfare, and recreation program must be
15 deposited in the morale, welfare, and recreation fund. Money in the
16 fund is available for expenditure for the support of program
17 operations as appropriated in part 1.

18 (5) Money remaining in the fund at the close of the fiscal
19 year remains in the fund and does not lapse to the general fund.

20 Sec. 311. (1) The National Guard facilities rental fund is
21 created in the state treasury.

22 (2) The state treasurer shall deposit money and other assets
23 received from any source into the fund. The state treasurer shall
24 direct the investment of money in the fund and shall credit
25 interest and earnings from the investments to the fund.

26 (3) All of the fees and other revenues generated from the
27 operation of the National Guard facilities rental program must be
28 deposited in the fund.

29 (4) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year remains

1 in the fund and does not lapse to the general fund.

2 (5) The department is the administrator of the fund for
3 auditing purposes.

4 (6) Money in the fund is available for expenditure for the
5 support of program operations as appropriated in part 1.

6 Sec. 312. Not later than February 1, the department shall
7 provide the report required under section 251(7) of the Michigan
8 military act, 1967 PA 150, MCL 32.651.

9 Sec. 313. The Michigan Army National Guard and Air National
10 Guard shall work to provide a culture that is free of sexual
11 assault, through an environment of prevention, education and
12 training, response capability, victim support, reporting
13 procedures, and appropriate accountability that enhances the safety
14 and well-being of all guard members.

15
16 **MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY**

17 Sec. 404. (1) Money privately donated to the department for
18 the MVAA in excess of the appropriation in part 1 is appropriated
19 and available for expenditure for the benefit and life enrichment
20 of veterans and for the purpose designated by the private source,
21 if specified and in compliance with this section.

22 (2) Any unexpended and unencumbered private donations to
23 support the MVAA at the close of this fiscal year do not lapse to
24 the general fund and must be carried forward to the subsequent
25 fiscal year.

26 (3) Not later than December 15, the department must submit a
27 report that provides the amount of private donations received by
28 the department for the MVAA and the purpose for which the funds
29 will be expended, if known. In addition to the annual report

1 required under this subsection, if a donation described under this
2 section is \$10,000.00 or greater, the department must submit a
3 report within 14 calendar days after receiving that donation
4 providing the amount of the donation and the purpose for which the
5 funds will be expended, if known.

6 Sec. 405. (1) The Michigan veterans' trust fund board together
7 with the MVAA shall provide emergency grants for disbursement from
8 the Michigan veterans' trust fund, as provided under the following
9 program authorities:

10 (a) Sections 37, 38, and 39 of article IX of the state
11 constitution of 1963.

12 (b) 1946 (1st Ex Sess) PA 9, MCL 35.602 to 35.610.

13 (c) R 35.1 to R 35.7 of the Michigan Administrative Code.

14 (d) R 35.621 to R 35.623 of the Michigan Administrative Code.

15 (2) Not later than February 1, the MVAA shall provide a
16 detailed report of the Michigan veterans' trust fund that includes,
17 for the previous fiscal year, the following information:

18 (a) Details concerning the methodology of allocations and the
19 selection of emergency grant program authorized agents.

20 (b) A description of how the emergency grant program is
21 administered in each county.

22 (c) A detailed breakdown of the Michigan veterans' trust fund
23 expenditures for the emergency grant program, including the amount
24 distributed to each county for operating costs, administrative
25 costs and emergency grants.

26 (d) Expenditures for state operating costs and administrative
27 costs.

28 (e) The number of approved emergency grant applications, by
29 category of assistance, and the number of denied applications, by

1 reason of denial.

2 (f) A description of the MVAA's efforts to reduce program
3 administrative costs and maintain the Michigan veterans' trust fund
4 corpus at or above its original amount of \$50,000,000.00.

5 (g) The overall financial status of the Michigan veterans'
6 trust fund, including revenues and year-end balance.

7 (h) Expenditures for program partnerships, delineated by
8 organization, and expenditures for any other program initiatives.

9 Sec. 406. The MVAA shall do all of the following:

10 (a) Provide outreach services to Michigan veterans to advise
11 them on the benefits to which they are entitled, as provided under
12 Executive Reorganization Order No. 2013-2, MCL 32.92.

13 (b) Develop and operate an outreach program that communicates
14 benefit eligibility information to at least 50% of Michigan's
15 population of veterans, as assessed by annual census estimates,
16 with a goal of reaching 100% and enabling 100% to access benefit
17 information online.

18 (c) Communicate veteran benefit information pertaining to the
19 Michigan military family relief fund, Michigan veterans' trust
20 fund, and USDVA health, financial, and memorial benefits to which
21 veterans are entitled.

22 (d) Fulfill requests for military discharge certificates (DD-
23 214) upon request.

24 (e) Provide a report annually providing, to the extent known,
25 data on the estimated number of homeless veterans, by county, in
26 this state.

27 (f) Provide a report annually on the percentage of Michigan
28 veterans contacted through its outreach programs, with a goal of
29 90%, and report that percentage biannually on the status of

1 outreach.

2 Sec. 408. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the MVAA
3 shall provide for the regional coordination of services and do all
4 of the following:

5 (a) Coordinate with veteran benefit counselors throughout a
6 specified region.

7 (b) Coordinate services with all state departments and
8 agencies.

9 (c) Coordinate with regional workforce and economic
10 development agencies.

11 (d) Coordinate activities among local foundations, nonprofit
12 organizations, and community groups to improve accessibility,
13 enrollment, and utilization of the array of health care, education,
14 employment assistance, and quality of life services provided at the
15 local level.

16 (e) Work with MVAA service officers, county veteran
17 counselors, VSO service officers, and other service providers to
18 increase awareness of available mental health care resources and
19 support services veterans may be eligible to receive.

20 (f) Coordinate with the DHHS to identify Medicaid recipients
21 who are veterans and who may be eligible for federal veterans
22 health care benefits or other benefits, to the extent that the
23 identification does not violate applicable confidentiality
24 requirements.

25 (g) Collaborate with the department of corrections to create
26 and maintain a process by which prisoners can obtain a copy of
27 their DD-214 form or other military discharge documentation if
28 necessary.

29 (h) Ensure that all MVAA service officers and VSO service

1 officers receive appropriate training in processing applications
2 for benefits payable to veterans due to military sexual trauma,
3 post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, substance
4 abuse, or other mental health issues.

5 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the MVAA may work
6 with MVAA service officers, county veteran counselors, VSO service
7 officers, and other service providers to incorporate the provision
8 of information relating to mental health care resources into their
9 daily operations to aid veterans in understanding the mental health
10 care support services they may be eligible to receive.

11 Sec. 410. (1) The MVAA shall provide claims processing
12 services to Michigan veterans, with the goal of processing a
13 minimum of 500 claims per year, in support of benefit claims
14 submitted to the USDVA for the health, financial, and memorial
15 benefits for which they are eligible. The MVAA shall report
16 annually on the number of benefit claims, by type, submitted to the
17 USDVA by MVAA.

18 (2) The MVAA shall develop and implement a process to ensure
19 that all county counselors receive the training and accreditation
20 necessary to provide quality services to veterans and shall report
21 information annually on the number and percentage of county
22 veterans counselors trained by the MVAA, and the number and
23 percentage who received funding from the MVAA to attend training,
24 with an overall goal of 100% of county veterans counselors trained.

25 (3) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for MVAA, the MVAA
26 is authorized to expend up to \$100,000.00 to hire legal services to
27 represent veterans benefit cases before federal court to maintain
28 accreditation under 38 CFR 14.628(d) (1) (iv).

29 Sec. 411. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for

1 veterans service grants, the MVAA shall establish, administer, and
2 award competitive grants to 1 or more congressionally chartered
3 VSOs or a coalition of VSOs. The MVAA shall award grants to support
4 efforts to connect veterans and their dependents with federal
5 compensation and pension benefits and state veterans' benefits,
6 including emergency grants through the Michigan veterans' trust
7 fund and other local or nonprofit assistance that may be available
8 to veterans and their dependents. The MVAA shall establish a
9 competitive grant process that satisfies all of the following:

10 (a) Utilizes a service provision model to provide services
11 across the state and can be tracked regionally to ensure that
12 veterans and their dependents in this state, including those within
13 tribal communities, are provided with services, advocacy, and
14 outreach as close to the communities in which they live as
15 possible.

16 (b) Ensures that grantees are providing adequate veteran
17 services and advocacy, through in-person and virtual meetings, that
18 enables the organization to meet performance goals established in
19 the grant agreement.

20 (c) Fosters innovative and transformative approaches and
21 techniques for the grantee to use when providing services,
22 advocacy, and outreach for veterans and their dependents.

23 (d) Requires grantees to use an MVAA-designated internet-based
24 claims data system to manage caseloads. License fees associated
25 with the claims data system described in this subdivision are
26 considered an allowable expenditure and may be reimbursed with
27 grant funds.

28 (e) Requires grantees, in coordination with the MVAA, to
29 provide services to incarcerated veterans who are within 1 year of

1 their earliest release date.

2 (f) Ensures that each grantee is issued performance goals.

3 (g) Ensures that each grantee expends grant awards as
4 prescribed in the grant agreement.

5 (h) Requires each grantee to report not less than quarterly on
6 all of the following:

7 (i) An accounting for all grant fund expenditures.

8 (ii) The number and type of claims originated and submitted by
9 the grantee to the USDVA.

10 (iii) The number and type of claims originated by an
11 organization other than the grantee and submitted by the grantee to
12 the USDVA.

13 (iv) The services provided to veterans and their dependents.

14 (v) Progress in achieving monthly performance benchmark goals.

15 (i) Ensures that each grantee is issued monthly performance
16 benchmark goals that each grantee must aim to achieve and require
17 each grantee to report to the MVAA, in order to ensure that
18 benchmark goals are being achieved, or on target to be achieved, in
19 the fiscal year.

20 (2) The MVAA shall do all of the following:

21 (a) Follow all generally accepted accounting principles in
22 accordance with sections 141 and 485 of the management and budget
23 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1141 and 18.1485.

24 (b) When establishing, modifying, or amending the competitive
25 grant process described in subsection (1), consult and collaborate
26 with congressionally chartered VSOs in the state, or a coalition of
27 VSOs, and other stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive approach to
28 providing services, advocacy, and outreach to veterans and their
29 dependents.

1 (c) Provide notice to current grantees of any MVAA-proposed
2 modifications or amendments to the competitive grant process and
3 provide those grantees with an opportunity to respond through
4 written communication.

5 (d) Assess the accuracy rate of claims reported by grantees.

6 (e) Review and audit grantees' expenditure of grant funds to
7 ensure compliance with the grant agreement, as provided under
8 section 470 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL
9 18.1470.

10 (3) Not later than March 1, the MVAA shall provide a report
11 summarizing grant activities for the previous fiscal year,
12 including the amount of expenditures, number of service and
13 advocacy hours, number of claims for benefits submitted by type of
14 claim, and other information deemed appropriate by the MVAA.

15 (4) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for veterans service
16 grants, \$211,800.00 must be allocated to cover necessary
17 administrative and implementation costs incurred by the MVAA.

18 Sec. 413. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for county
19 veteran service grants must be deposited into the restricted county
20 veteran service fund created in section 3a of 1953 PA 192, MCL
21 35.623a. All available funds in the restricted county veteran
22 service fund are appropriated and available for expenditure as
23 provided by law.

24 (2) From the restricted county veteran service fund created in
25 section 3a of 1953 PA 192, MCL 35.623a, \$211,800.00 must be
26 allocated to the MVAA to cover necessary administrative and
27 implementation costs incurred by the MVAA.

28 (3) The MVAA shall provide a report not later than December 31
29 that includes the following information for the previous fiscal

1 year:

2 (a) A list of counties that received a grant under this
3 section.

4 (b) The total amount of grant funding each county received
5 including any amount of funding provided under the emergent need
6 relief program pursuant to section 3a(10) of 1953 PA 192, MCL
7 35.623a.

8 (c) A summary of each county's expenditures of grant funding.

9 (d) The amount of any unexpended grant funding disbursed to
10 the counties that has been recovered and returned to the county
11 veteran service fund.

12 (e) The balance of the county veteran service fund after the
13 previous fiscal year-end book closing.

14 (f) A list of counties that have requested funds in the
15 current fiscal year, the amount requested by each county, and the
16 total of these amounts.

17 (g) A list of counties that did not request funds in the
18 current fiscal year.

19 (h) The amount of any funds recovered by the MVAA through the
20 MVAA's finding of misused grant funds.

21 (i) An explanation of any obstacles or reasons for counties
22 not applying for or spending their eligible amount of grant
23 funding.

24 (j) The amount expended by the MVAA for grant administration
25 and implementation costs.

26 Sec. 414. Not later than February 1, the department shall
27 provide a report on the status of the construction, operations, and
28 finances of the state veterans cemetery funded in article 10 of
29 2022 PA 166.

1 Sec. 415. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for Michigan
2 veterans affairs agency administration, the MVAA shall complete a
3 study and submit a report to the standard report recipients not
4 later than January 1, 2025. The MVAA may partner with any
5 additional stakeholders the MVAA deems necessary for completing the
6 study. The study and report must include all of the following:

7 (a) An analysis on the scope of homelessness among the state's
8 veteran population.

9 (b) Challenges to securing housing for homeless veterans.

10 (c) Recommendations for future long-term partnerships between
11 the Michigan state housing development authority, the MVAA,
12 municipalities, and nonprofit organizations that could assist in
13 eliminating homelessness among veterans in this state.

14 Recommendations under this subdivision must minimize additional
15 costs to local units of government.

16
17 **MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITY AUTHORITY**

18 Sec. 501. (1) Money privately donated to the MVH, the MVFA, or
19 a veterans' facility in excess of the appropriation in part 1 is
20 appropriated and is available for expenditure for the benefit and
21 life enrichment of resident members and for the purpose designated
22 by the private source, if specified and in compliance with this
23 section.

24 (2) Not later than December 15, the MVH must submit a report
25 that provides the amount of the private donations described under
26 subsection (1) and the purpose for which the funds will be
27 expended, if known. In addition to the annual report required under
28 this subsection, if the MVH, the MVFA, or a veterans' facility
29 receives a private donation that is \$10,000.00 or greater, the MVH

1 must submit a report within 14 calendar days after receiving that
2 donation providing the amount of the donation and the purpose for
3 which the funds are to be expended, if known.

4 (3) Any unexpended and unencumbered private donations to
5 support the MVH at the close of this fiscal year do not lapse to
6 the general fund and must be carried forward to the subsequent
7 fiscal year.

8 Sec. 502. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the MVH
9 and the MVFA shall provide compassionate and quality nursing care
10 services at each veterans' facility in this state so that resident
11 members can achieve their highest potential of wellness,
12 independence, self-worth, and dignity. The MVFA and the MVH shall
13 provide nursing care services to veterans in accordance with
14 federal standards and report the results of the annual USDVA and
15 CMS surveys and certification as proof of compliance.

16 (2) Appropriations in part 1 for a veterans' facility shall
17 not be used for any purpose other than expenses related to the
18 operations of the veterans' facility.

19 Sec. 503. All contractors providing health care services at a
20 veterans' facility shall provide services in a manner that complies
21 with applicable USDVA and CMS regulations for state veterans' homes
22 and skilled nursing facilities, any rules governing the operation
23 of nursing homes licensed in this state, and any training and
24 education requirements associated with staff licensure or
25 certification.

26 Sec. 504. (1) The MVFA shall report and investigate all
27 complaints of abuse or neglect at a veterans' facility in
28 compliance with USDVA and CMS regulations for state veterans' homes
29 and skilled nursing facilities. The MVFA shall report on a

1 bimonthly basis the following information:

2 (a) A description of the process by which resident members and
3 others may file complaints of alleged abuse or neglect at a
4 veterans' facility.

5 (b) Summary statistics on the number and general nature of
6 complaints of abuse or neglect.

7 (c) Summary statistics on the final disposition of complaints
8 of abuse or neglect received.

9 (2) The MVFA shall display in high-traffic areas throughout
10 the veterans' facility the process by which visitors, resident
11 members, and staff of the veterans' facility may register
12 complaints.

13 Sec. 505. The MVH shall do the following regarding member
14 care:

15 (a) Provide board-certified psychiatric care for all resident
16 members with mental health disorders in order to ensure that those
17 resident members receive needed services in a professional and
18 timely manner.

19 (b) Provide all resident members and staff a safe and secure
20 environment.

21 (c) Ensure that the veterans' facility effectively develops,
22 executes, and monitors all comprehensive care plans in accordance
23 with federal regulations and the veterans' facility's internal
24 policies, with a goal that a comprehensive care plan is fully
25 developed for all resident members.

26 Sec. 506. The MVH shall establish and implement internal
27 controls regarding all of the following:

28 (a) The use and management of food, maintenance, and
29 pharmaceutical and medical supply inventories.

1 (b) Calculating resident member maintenance assessments in
2 order to accurately calculate resident member maintenance
3 assessments for each billing cycle and ensure that all past due
4 resident member maintenance assessments are addressed within 30
5 days.

6 (c) Monetary donations and donated goods.

7 (d) The handling of resident member funds to ensure the
8 release of funds within 15 calendar days upon the resident member
9 leaving the home and to ensure that a representative of a resident
10 member is provided a full accounting of that resident member's
11 funds within 30 calendar days after the death of that resident
12 member.

13 (e) Financial reporting and accounting.

14 Sec. 507. (1) The MVH shall post on its website the following:

15 (a) All policies adopted by the MVFA and the veterans'
16 facility related to the administrative operations of the veterans'
17 facility.

18 (b) The agenda and minutes of public meetings of the MVFA
19 board.

20 (2) The MVH shall provide a report with copies of each
21 veterans' facility's USDVA State Veteran Home quarterly report.
22 These quarterly reports shall also be posted on the MVH website.

23 (3) The MVH shall provide bimonthly reports on the following:

24 (a) Census data for each veterans' facility, including
25 information on level of care, service era of its resident members,
26 payer source, and average income and assessment rate.

27 (b) Per patient daily care hours provided by each veterans'
28 facility, by level of care.

29 (c) Financial status of each veterans' facility and central

1 MVFA/MVH administration. Information shall include, but not be
2 limited to, actual year-to-date and projected year-end revenues and
3 expenditures, by fund source.

4 (4) The MVH shall provide a report on the results of any
5 annual or for-cause survey conducted by any entity with oversight
6 over the veterans' facility and any corresponding corrective action
7 plan. This information shall also be made available publicly
8 through the MVH website.

9 (5) In addition to the information required under section
10 12(1) of the Michigan veterans' facility authority act, 2016 PA
11 560, MCL 36.112, the MVFA shall provide a report detailing the
12 strategies and actions taken to maximize revenues from non-general
13 fund sources and cost savings strategies.

14 Sec. 508. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,
15 private revenues held by the MVH on a nonfiduciary basis for a
16 resident member of a veterans' facility are appropriated to pay
17 medical expenses, member assessments, and other expenses incurred
18 by that resident member. Any unexpended or unencumbered private
19 revenues held on a nonfiduciary basis by the MVH at the close of
20 the fiscal year do not lapse to the general fund and must be
21 carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year.

22 Sec. 509. Not later than March 1, the MVFA shall provide a
23 report on the construction, operation, and finances of the new
24 Marquette veterans home funded in article 14 of 2022 PA 166.

25 Sec. 510. Except as otherwise provided by law, any unexpended
26 and unencumbered federal revenues received by the MVFA do not lapse
27 to the state general fund and must be carried forward into the
28 subsequent fiscal year.

29

1 **CAPITAL OUTLAY**

2 Sec. 601. (1) The department shall provide for the acquisition
3 and disposition of National Guard armories, facilities, and lands
4 as provided under sections 368, 382, and 382a of the Michigan
5 military act, 1967 PA 150, MCL 32.768, 32.782, and 32.782a.

6 (2) The department shall provide a listing of property sales
7 and acquisitions annually.

8 Sec. 602. (1) The appropriations for armory maintenance and
9 special maintenance - National Guard must be expended in accordance
10 with the requirements of sections 302 and 305 of this part and must
11 be expended according to the maintenance priorities of the
12 department to repair and modernize military training sites and
13 support facilities, including armories.

14 (2) Not later than January 15, the department shall provide a
15 report providing information on the status, projected costs, and
16 projected completion date of current and planned special
17 maintenance projects at the armories and other National Guard
18 facilities funded from capital outlay appropriations made in part 1
19 and in previous fiscal years.

20 Sec. 603. (1) The appropriations for special maintenance -
21 veterans' facility must be expended in accordance with the
22 requirements of section 452 of this part and must be expended
23 according to the maintenance priorities of the MVFA to repair and
24 modernize the state's veterans' facility, which may include
25 physical plant expansions, renovations, or enhancements, and other
26 projects designed to enhance the quality of life and medical care
27 of resident members.

28 (2) Not later than January 15, the MVH shall provide a report
29 providing information on the status, projected costs, and projected

1 completion date of current and planned special maintenance projects
2 at each veterans' facility funded from capital outlay
3 appropriations made in part 1 and in previous fiscal years.
4

5 **ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS**

6 Sec. 701. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for
7 eliminating veteran homelessness grants, the MVAA shall create and
8 operate a grant program that provides grants not to exceed
9 \$250,000.00 to Michigan-based nonprofit organizations that provide,
10 or assist in providing, housing for homeless veterans or their
11 families, or both. The MVAA shall award grants to support efforts
12 to reduce or eliminate homelessness among veterans in this state by
13 supporting costs of housing veterans or their families, or both.
14 The MVAA shall develop criteria for determining grant eligibility
15 in accordance with this section. The MVAA shall not award more than
16 1 grant to any 1 nonprofit organization. A grant must be disbursed
17 within 60 days after the date that the MVAA receives a completed
18 and signed grant agreement from the nonprofit organization
19 requesting the grant. Grant funding must be used to support costs
20 related to housing or other activities that assist homeless
21 veterans and their families to avoid homelessness.

22 (2) Not later than December 31, the MVAA shall provide a
23 report summarizing grant activities for the fiscal year ending
24 September 30, 2025, and shall include the following information for
25 each grant issued under this grant program:

- 26 (a) The name of each grant recipient.
27 (b) The location, city, and county of each grant recipient.
28 (c) The amount of the grant provided.
29 (d) A brief summary of expenditures of grant funding.

1 (3) The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for
2 eliminating veteran homelessness grants are designated as a work
3 project appropriation, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds do
4 not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and must be available for
5 expenditures for projects under this section until the projects
6 have been completed. The following is in compliance with section
7 451a of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

8 (a) The purpose of the project is to make grants to Michigan-
9 based nonprofit organizations that provide, or assist in providing,
10 shelter and housing for veterans or their families, or both. The
11 grants must support efforts to reduce or eliminate homelessness
12 among veterans in this state by supporting costs of sheltering and
13 housing veterans or their families, or both.

14 (b) The project will be accomplished by state employees and
15 grantees.

16 (c) The total estimated cost of the project is \$5,500,000.00.

17 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2028.

18 (4) As used in this section:

19 (a) "Veteran" means an individual who served in the United
20 States Armed Forces, including the reserve components and National
21 Guard, and was discharged or released under conditions other than
22 dishonorable. Veteran includes an individual who died while on
23 active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

24 (b) "Homeless" means that term as defined in section 103 of
25 the McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act of 2009, 42 USC 11302.

26 Sec. 702. Funds appropriated in part 1 for Selfridge Air
27 National Guard Base must be used to support costs of complying with
28 air installation compatible use zone program recommendations,
29 including, but not limited to, both of the following:

1 (a) Capital improvements necessary to shift the runway to the
2 north and repair airfield and non-airfield features of the base and
3 surrounding community impacted by the shift.

4 (b) Infrastructure projects repairing roadways, vehicle access
5 to the base and museum, stormwater drain and culvert repairs and
6 modernization, force protection features, and airfield features.

7 Sec. 703. (1) From funds appropriated in part 1 for VETS ride
8 pilot program, the MVAA shall create the VETS ride pilot program to
9 provide veterans free transportation for medical purposes, health
10 care appointments, or for receiving assistance in filing claims for
11 veterans benefits from a VSO service officer.

12 (2) To qualify for free transportation for health care
13 purposes, a veteran must live not less than 30 miles from a USDVA
14 health care facility. To qualify for free transportation for
15 benefits assistance, a veteran must live not less than 30 miles
16 from a VSO office.

17 (3) The MVAA shall provide grants to eligible organizations to
18 reimburse costs of providing veterans transportation under the VETS
19 ride pilot program. If an eligible organization provides
20 transportation under this program to a veteran for medical purposes
21 or a health care appointment at a facility that is not a USDVA
22 health care facility, the fact that the facility was not a USDVA
23 health care facility is not a basis for denial of reimbursement of
24 costs for that transportation to the eligible organization under
25 this program. Eligible organizations include any of the following:

26 (a) Municipal and county transit authorities.

27 (b) Nonprofit or for-profit organizations whose primary
28 mission is providing transportation services.

29 (4) The MVAA shall establish program guidelines, eligibility

1 criteria, and appropriate grant recipient reporting requirements.
2 The MVAA shall disburse funds until September 30, 2025, or until
3 funds are depleted, whichever occurs first. The MVAA shall submit a
4 report to the standard report recipients on or before December 31,
5 2026. The report must include the distribution of the grant
6 disbursements, the amount of unexpended funds, if any, and
7 information on applicants that did not receive a grant, if any,
8 including the reason the applicants did not receive a grant.