

Veterans’ and Military Affairs  
Coordinator – Jacob Phillips  
Office of Fiscal Analysis

	Page #	Analyst	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Committee	
						FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
General Fund									
Department of Veterans' Affairs	248	JP	26,930,246	26,425,913	27,344,272	28,997,725	28,997,725	29,210,225	29,663,725
Military Department	251	ME	6,288,688	6,234,423	6,420,298	6,573,315	6,891,015	6,573,315	7,060,015
Total - General Fund			33,218,934	32,660,336	33,764,570	35,571,040	35,888,740	35,783,540	36,723,740
Total - Appropriated Funds			33,218,934	32,660,336	33,764,570	35,571,040	35,888,740	35,783,540	36,723,740

## Department of Veterans' Affairs

### DVA21000

#### Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Committee	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
General Fund	239	241	241	241	241	244	247

#### Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Committee	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
Personal Services	22,239,904	21,919,442	22,917,263	23,298,956	23,298,956	23,491,456	23,683,956
Other Expenses	3,454,105	3,221,896	3,066,113	4,066,113	4,066,113	4,086,113	4,347,113
<b>Other Current Expenses</b>							
SSMF Administration	546,396	560,345	546,396	560,345	560,345	560,345	560,345
Veterans' Opportunity Pilot	-	38,041	-	245,047	245,047	245,047	245,047
Veterans' Rally Point	500,000	512,764	500,000	512,764	512,764	512,764	512,764
<b>Other Than Payments to Local Governments</b>							
Burial Expenses	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666
Headstones	183,175	166,759	307,834	307,834	307,834	307,834	307,834
<b>Agency Total - General Fund</b>	<b>26,930,246</b>	<b>26,425,913</b>	<b>27,344,272</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>	<b>29,210,225</b>	<b>29,663,725</b>

Account	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

## Policy Revisions

### Provide One-Time Funding for Various Projects

Other Expenses	-	-	-	241,000	-	241,000
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>241,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>241,000</b>

#### Committee

Provide one-time funding of \$241,000 in FY 27 to support various capital projects around the state. The funding will support \$50,000 for the repair and expansion of the Southington Veterans' Memorial and \$191,000 for the New London VFW Post 189 for renovations and repairs.

### Provide funding for DVA Office of Advocacy and Assistance

Personal Services	-	-	192,500	385,000	192,500	385,000
Other Expenses	-	-	20,000	40,000	20,000	40,000
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>212,500</b>	<b>425,000</b>	<b>212,500</b>	<b>425,000</b>
<b>Positions - General Fund</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>

#### Committee

Provide funding of \$212,500 in FY 26 for three positions and \$425,000 beginning in FY 27 for six positions to support the establishment of two veterans' service offices. The funding will support two veterans' service officers and one clerical position in FY 26 and four veterans' service officers and two clerical positions in FY 27 for two new Advocacy and Assistance teams. Funding in FY 26 is intended to support a service office in the Northeastern part of state and the additional funding in FY 27 is intended to support a service office in the Northwestern part of the state.

Account	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

### Transfer Veterans' Opportunity Pilot to DVA

Veterans' Opportunity Pilot	245,047	245,047	245,047	245,047	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>245,047</b>	<b>245,047</b>	<b>245,047</b>	<b>245,047</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Background

The Veterans Opportunity Pilot Program was created within the Department of Labor (DOL) in 2014 to assist veterans seeking job opportunities. Due to the pandemic, this program ceased operations in March 2020, and it has not since been reestablished.

#### Governor

Transfer funding of \$245,047 in both FY 26 and FY 27 for the Veterans' Opportunity Pilot from the Department of Labor to the Department of Veterans' Affairs to better align with programmatic requirements.

#### Committee

Same as Governor.

## Current Services

### Annualize FY 2025 Private Provider COLA

SSMF Administration	13,949	13,949	13,949	13,949	-	-
Veterans' Rally Point	12,764	12,764	12,764	12,764	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>26,713</b>	<b>26,713</b>	<b>26,713</b>	<b>26,713</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Background

Private provider organizations contract to provide direct health and human services for clients of various state agencies, including: the Departments of Aging and Disability Services, Children and Families, Correction, Developmental Services, Housing, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Public Health, Social Services, Veterans Affairs, the Office of Early Childhood and the Judicial Department.

#### Governor

Provide funding of \$26,713 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to support annualization of the private provider COLA.

#### Committee

Same as Governor.

### Adjust Funding to Reflect Current Requirements

Other Expenses	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Background

Provides funding to address increased costs in the Other Expenses account due to rising food, utility, and medication costs in the department's skilled nursing facility.

#### Governor

Increase funding by \$1,000,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current agency requirements.

#### Committee

Same as Governor.

### Reduce Funding to Reflect Current Staffing Levels

Personal Services	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>(600,000)</b>	<b>(600,000)</b>	<b>(600,000)</b>	<b>(600,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Governor

Reduce funding by \$600,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current agency requirements.

#### Committee

Same as Governor.

Account	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

### Annualize Cost of Existing Wage Agreements

Personal Services	981,693	981,693	981,693	981,693	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>981,693</b>	<b>981,693</b>	<b>981,693</b>	<b>981,693</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Background

The Governor's Recommended Budget provides funding of \$124.4 million in FY 26 and FY 27, across nine appropriated funds, to reflect current wage-related adjustments resulting from existing wage agreements.

#### Governor

Provide funding of \$981,693 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect this agency's increased wage costs.

#### Committee

Same as Governor.

### Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - GF	27,344,272	27,344,272	27,344,272	27,344,272	-	-
Policy Revisions	245,047	245,047	457,547	911,047	212,500	666,000
Current Services	1,408,406	1,408,406	1,408,406	1,408,406	-	-
<b>Total Recommended - GF</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>	<b>29,210,225</b>	<b>29,663,725</b>	<b>212,500</b>	<b>666,000</b>

Positions	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - GF	241	241	241	241	-	-
Policy Revisions	-	-	3	6	3	6
<b>Total Recommended - GF</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>

Military Department  
MIL36000

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Committee	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
General Fund	41	41	41	41	41	41	41

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Committee	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
Personal Services	3,349,224	3,188,208	3,413,875	3,560,092	3,560,092	3,305,492	3,305,492
Other Expenses	2,342,914	2,519,175	2,344,823	2,429,823	2,429,823	2,144,823	2,144,823
Other Current Expenses							
Honor Guards	524,500	463,440	561,600	521,600	521,600	561,600	561,600
Veteran's Service Bonuses	72,050	63,600	100,000	61,800	379,500	61,800	379,500
JEEP Program	-	-	-	-	-	169,600	338,600
Governor’s Guards	-	-	-	-	-	330,000	330,000
Agency Total - General Fund	6,288,688	6,234,423	6,420,298	6,573,315	6,891,015	6,573,315	7,060,015

Account	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

Policy Revisions

Provide Funding for the Joint Enlistment Enhancement Program

Personal Services	-	-	(129,600)	(129,600)	(129,600)	(129,600)
Other Expenses	-	-	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)
JEEP Program	-	-	169,600	338,600	169,600	338,600
Total - General Fund	-	-	-	169,000	-	169,000

Background

The JEEP provides an incentive for Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) members, CTNG retirees and members of Connecticut's Organized Militia (i.e., Governor's Guard and State Guard) to recruit persons to enlist into the Connecticut National Guard. The program provides an incentive for qualified persons to receive an allowance for providing a lead that results in an enlistment.

Committee

Provide funding of \$169,600 in in FY 26 and \$338,600 in FY 27 for the JEEP program. Reduce personal services funding by \$129,600 in FY 26 and FY 27 and other expenses funding by \$40,000 in FY 26 and FY 27.

Current Services

Provide Funding to the Governor's Foot Guard and Horse Guard

Personal Services	-	-	(125,000)	(125,000)	(125,000)	(125,000)
Other Expenses	-	-	(205,000)	(205,000)	(205,000)	(205,000)
Governor’s Guards	-	-	330,000	330,000	330,000	330,000
Total - General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-

Account	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

### Committee

Provide funding of \$330,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to the Governor's Horse Guard and the Governor's Foot Guard. Reduce Personal Services funding by \$125,000 and Other Expenses funding by \$205,000 in FY 26 and FY 27. Funding cannot be altered or reduced without approval from the Appropriations Committee, Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee, and a vote before the General Assembly.

Create a task force to study the future of the Governor's Horse Guard and Governor's Foot Guard and submit a report to the Appropriations Committee by June 30, 2026.

### Annualize the Cost of Existing Wage Agreements

Personal Services	146,217	146,217	146,217	146,217	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>146,217</b>	<b>146,217</b>	<b>146,217</b>	<b>146,217</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### Background

The Governor's Recommended Budget provides funding of \$124.4 million in FY 26 and FY 27, across nine appropriated funds, to reflect current wage-related adjustments resulting from existing wage agreements.

### Governor

Provide funding of \$146,217 in FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect this agency's increased wage costs.

### Committee

Same as Governor

### Adjust Funding to Reflect Anticipated Payments

Other Expenses	-	-	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)
Honor Guards	(40,000)	(40,000)	-	-	40,000	40,000
Veteran's Service Bonuses	(38,200)	279,500	(38,200)	279,500	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>(78,200)</b>	<b>239,500</b>	<b>(78,200)</b>	<b>239,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### Background

The Honor Guard account funds three-member rifle squads for veteran funerals which is a supplemental benefit to the federally required presentation of the flag and playing of "taps."

The Veterans' Service Bonus program was established for National Guard members called to active service on or after September 11, 2001. The bonus is \$50 for each month of active service, up to a maximum of \$1,200 for combat service, or \$500 for non-combat service for each member who meets the eligibility qualifications.

### Governor

Reduce funding of \$40,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to the honor guards account and reduce funding of \$38,200 in FY 26 and increase funding of \$279,500 in FY 27 to the Veteran's Service Bonuses account to reflect anticipated costs.

### Committee

Maintain funding of \$40,000 in the honor guards account in FY 26 and FY 27 and reduce funding in the other expenses account by \$40,000 in FY 26 and FY 27. Reduce funding of \$38,200 in FY 26 and increase funding of \$279,500 in FY 27 to the Veteran's Service Bonuses account to reflect anticipated costs.

### Provide Funding for the Putnam Readiness Center Operating Costs

Other Expenses	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	-	-
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### Background

The Putnam Readiness Center will be home to the Connecticut Army National Guard's 643rd Military Police Company which currently resides at the Readiness Center in Westbrook, which was constructed in the 1950s and does not meet current anti-terrorism and force protection standards. The 39,000 square foot facility will provide state-of-the-art training, an assembly hall, equipment storage, parking lots and will be the first National Guard facility in Windham County. Construction of the Putnam Readiness Center began in FY 19 and is expected to be completed in FY 26.

### Governor

Provide funding of \$85,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to support the operating costs of the Putnam Readiness Center.

Account	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

Committee

Same as Governor

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended		Committee		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - GF	6,420,298	6,420,298	6,420,298	6,420,298	-	-
Policy Revisions	-	-	-	169,000	-	169,000
Current Services	153,017	470,717	153,017	470,717	-	-
Total Recommended - GF	6,573,315	6,891,015	6,573,315	7,060,015	-	169,000