

Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security

Adopted Adjustments (\$ in millions)				
	FY 2013 Adopted		FY 2014 Adopted	
	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>
2012-14 Base Budget, Ch. 890	\$9.0	\$42.2	\$9.0	\$42.2
Technical Adjustments	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4
Increases	1.0	2.7	1.0	3.6
Decreases	<u>(0.1)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>	<u>(0.1)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>
\$ Net Change	1.2	3.2	1.2	4.1
Chapter 3 (HB 1301, as Adopted)	\$10.2	\$45.3	\$10.1	\$46.2
% Change	9.8%	6.4%	9.5%	8.6%
FTEs	117.00	565.00	117.00	565.00
# Change	5.00	51.00	5.00	51.00

- **Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security**

- *Federal Grant Funding.* Provides \$116,000 NGF each year from a federal grant to support wage positions that will assist employees displaced by the disestablishment of the Joint Forces Command in Hampton Roads. The grant is administered by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

- **Department of Veterans Services**

- *Budget Reduction Plans.* Includes a series of budget reductions totaling \$139,804 GF each year, including elimination of the county veterans services officer liaison program, delayed replacement of equipment, elimination of a special projects coordinator wage position, and reductions in printing and public relations costs at the Virginia War Memorial.
- *Wounded Warrior Program.* Transfers one position to oversee the Virginia Veterans Corps, funded by a federal AmeriCorps grant. The grant provides stipends to 20 volunteer “Navigators,” who work in Wounded Warrior partner agencies to assist service members, veterans, Guardsmen and Reservists, and their families, in accessing mental health and rehabilitative services.

- ***Additional Claims Agents.*** Provides \$127,068 GF each year and two positions to increase the number of claims filed on behalf of Virginia veterans.
- ***Fort Monroe Freedom Support Center.*** Adds \$199,900 GF the first year and \$187,612 GF the second year and one position for a new program at Fort Monroe to assist the families of deployed service members and veterans who are leaving the military and transitioning into new careers by helping them to obtain available services and information.
- ***Moving Veterans from Medicaid to VA Benefits.*** Includes \$128,068 GF each year to fill two vacant positions to partner with the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) in identifying Virginia veterans receiving Medicaid benefits. The agency will then work with these veterans to determine whether they are eligible for disability and compensation benefits and medical care through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. A companion amendment in DMAS directs that agency to report on the feasibility and potential savings from this initiative by November 1, 2012.
- ***Homeless Veterans.*** Includes \$197,018 GF each year and two positions for the Virginia Homeless Veterans Initiative. The two coordinators will build local coalitions to provide homeless veterans with access to services, including housing vouchers, employment support and social services.
- ***Automated Claims Processing.*** Adds \$150,000 GF each year for licensing fees associated with an automated claims processing system for the submission of veterans' benefit claims to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- ***Administrative Positions.*** Adds \$140,000 GF and \$20,000 NGF each year to address financial management, internal operating procedures, and internal organizational issues identified by the Auditor of Public Accounts in audits of the Department of Veterans Services, the Veterans Services Foundation, and the Virginia War Memorial. The nongeneral funds are provided from revenues received by the veterans care centers.
- ***DOA Payroll Services Bureau.*** Provides \$105,160 GF in FY 2013 and \$10,494 GF in FY 2014 to transition the Department of Veterans Services into the Department of Accounts' centralized payroll processing unit. This transition is expected to yield long-term operating efficiencies. Also included in the first year is funding to reorganize the department's administrative services in keeping with the recommendations made by the Auditor of Public Accounts.
- ***Compliance Surveys.*** Transfers two unfunded positions between service areas to perform federally-mandated compliance surveys under the Post-9/11 GI Bill Improvement Act. Current federal funds are sufficient to pay for the additional positions, which will conduct audits of veterans education and financial aid records at all active institutions of higher education in Virginia. The purpose of the audits is to verify enrollment data, award actions, and previous payments to

ensure that payments made to eligible veterans are consistent with federal Veterans Administration regulations.

- ***Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center.*** Adds \$2.7 million NGF the first year, \$3.6 million NGF the second year, and 51 FTE positions each year to operate the new 40-bed addition to the Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond. Construction on the new addition is expected to begin in the early fall of 2012.
- ***Maintenance Reserve.*** Includes \$461,539 NGF the second year for maintenance reserve projects.