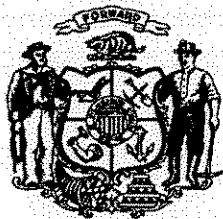


THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

SENATE CHAIR
BRIAN BURKE

316-S Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882
Phone: (608) 266-8535



ASSEMBLY CHAIR
JOHN GARD

315-N Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
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Phone: (608) 266-2343

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

May 26, 1999

Deputy Secretary Robert Cocroft
Department of Veterans Affairs
30 West Mifflin
P.O. Box 7843
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7843

Dear Deputy Secretary Cocroft:

We are writing to inform you that the Joint Committee on Finance has reviewed your request, dated May 6, 1999, concerning the increased spending authority for the Subsistence Aid Grant Program.

No objections to this request have been raised. Accordingly, the request is approved.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Brian Burke in black ink.

BRIAN BURKE
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of John G. Gard in black ink.

JOHN G. GARD
Assembly Chair

BB:JG:dh

cc: Members, Joint Committee on Finance
Robert Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Vicky LaBelle, Department of Administration

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Brian Burke
Representative John Gard

Re: 14-Day Passive Review Approval

Date: May 7, 1999

Attached is a copy of a request from the Department of Veterans Affairs, dated May 6, 1999, concerning increased spending authority for the Subsistence Aid Grant Program. The request requires 14-day passive review and approval by the Joint Committee on Finance, pursuant to s. 45.351(1), Stats.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Burke** or **Representative Gard** no later than **Monday, May 24, 1999**, if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to discuss it.

Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachment

BB:JG:dh



VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATE OF WISCONSIN, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

30 West Mifflin Street, P.O. Box 7843, Madison, WI 53707-7843

PHONE: (608) 266-1311 1-800-947-8387 (WIS VETS)

WEB SITE: <http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva>

E-MAIL: Headquarters@dva.state.wi.us

FAX: (608) 267-0403

Tommy G. Thompson, Governor
Raymond G. Boland, Secretary

May 6, 1999

The Honorable Brian J. Burke
Senate Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
Room 316 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

The Honorable John Gard
Assembly Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
Room 315 North, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Burke and Representative Gard:

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs is requesting increased spending authority in the amount of \$56,700 in Appropriation 264 for the Subsistence Aid Grant program. The Department is requesting the increased spending authority under the Joint Committee on Finance's 14-day passive review approval, as provided by s. 45.351 (1), Stats.

S. 45.351 (1), Stats. authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to grant subsistence aid to any veteran or to any dependent of a veteran in an amount that the Department determines is advisable to prevent want or distress. The Subsistence Aid Grant Program provides temporary, emergency financial aid when there is a loss of income due to illness, disability or death. The grants may be used for items such as housing, food, utilities, basic transportation and health insurance premiums. The grant is limited to a maximum of three months of aid within a 12-month period unless the Department determines the need for aid in excess of the maximum time period is caused by the aid recipient's relapse.

The Department's current annual spending authority for this program is \$236,200. The amount of funds that have been spent or committed through May 5, 1999 is \$228,528. This results in a balance of \$7,672 of spending authority for the remainder of the fiscal year. The average monthly demand for the program for the fiscal year to date has been \$23,000 per month. However, the demand for the months of March and April was \$42,000 and \$35,000, respectively. Based on the recent increase in demand, the Department is requesting an increase in spending authority of \$56,700 for the months of May and June. It is estimated this amount of funds should be sufficient to cover all of the demand for the remainder of the fiscal year.

I am attaching a worksheet that shows how the Department projected the amount of funds being requested. Thank you for your consideration of the Department's request. If you have any questions, please contact me at 266-2256.

Sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Robert A. Cocroft
Deputy Secretary

cc: Bob Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Richard Chandler, Department of Administration

**WORKSHEET FOR s. 16.515 REQUEST FOR SUBSISTENCE
AID GRANT INCREASE IN SPENDING AUTHORITY**

Current Spending Authority	\$236,200
Total Expenditures/Commitments To Date	\$228,528
Current Balance as of 5/5/99	\$7,672
Average Spent Per Day (\$35,000 total April expenditures / 31 days)	\$1,130
Projected Expenditures for Remainder of May	\$29,380
Projected Expenditures for June	\$35,030
Total Projected Need	\$64,410
Minus Current Balance	\$7,672
Requested Increase in Spending Authority	\$56,738

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

SENATE CHAIR
BRIAN BURKE

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ASSEMBLY CHAIR
JOHN GARD

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P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952
Phone: (608) 266-2343

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

June 10, 1999

Deputy Secretary Robert Cocroft
Department of Veterans Affairs
30 W. Mifflin St.
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Deputy Secretary Cocroft:

We are writing to inform you that the Joint Committee on Finance has reviewed your request, received on May 20, 1999, concerning federal money available to provide per diem payments to veterans participating in the veterans assistance program.

No objections to this request have been raised. Accordingly, the request is approved.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Brian Burke in black ink.

BRIAN BURKE
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of John G. Gard in black ink.

JOHN G. GARD
Assembly Chair

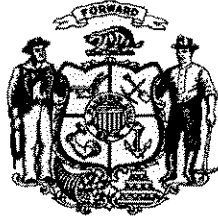
BB:JG:dh

cc: Members, Joint Committee on Finance
Robert Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Vicky LaBelle, Department of Administration

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Brian Burke
Representative John Gard
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Finance

Date: May 24, 1999

Re: 14-Day Passive Review

Attached is a copy of a written report, received on May 20, 1999, from the Department of Veterans Affairs regarding federal money available to provide per diem payments to veterans participating in the veterans assistance program. Pursuant to s. 9154 (2n) of 1997 Wisconsin Act 27, the Department is required to submit this report to the Joint Committee on Finance for consideration under a 14-day passive review.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Burke** or **Representative Gard** no later than **Tuesday, June 8, 1999**, if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to discuss it.

Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachment

BB/JG/js

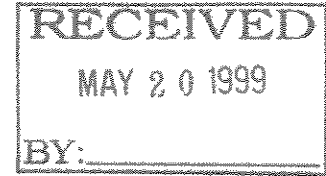


Tommy G. Thompson, Governor
Raymond G. Boland, Secretary

STATE OF WISCONSIN, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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FAX: (608) 267-0403

May 17, 1999



The Honorable Brian J. Burke
Senate Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
Room 316 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

The Honorable John Gard
Assembly Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
Room 315 North, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Burke and Representative Gard:

Section 9154 (2n) of 1997 Wisconsin Act 27 requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit a written report to the Joint Committee on Finance on any conditions on the use of federal per diem payments, and on the Department's proposed use of the funds. This report is subject to the 14-day passive review process.

Request

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) requests the Joint Committee on Finance approve spending authority of \$120,900 of the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs per diem received through the Department's Veterans Assistance Program (VAP). The Department currently has unobligated per diem revenues of \$182,000.

Background

The DVA received approval to receive federal per diem funds in 1997 Wisconsin Act 27. The VAP is a collaborative effort involving the Department, the VA hospitals and medical centers, county and municipal governments, non-profit community providers, and veterans service organizations. Comprehensive rehabilitative services in the following four major categories are provided under the program: (1) transitional housing, clothing, and meals; (2) mental, physical and substance abuse health care; (3) education and training; and (4) employment. A structured and service intensive residential environment is provided to homeless veterans that allows them to re-establish their self-esteem and self-determination. Part of the process is for the veterans to develop a consistent work ethic and the skills needed to acquire and maintain permanent employment and housing. Of the 2,200 homeless veterans who have been VAP residents, 60 percent have either left the program with a job and housing or were referred to a long-term treatment facility. Another 8,400 veterans have been assisted through on-site day services or through outreach services provided by VAP staff. Many of the veterans assisted through the day and outreach services are those who, because of extremely low incomes, are at risk of becoming homeless.

The Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program was created in 1993 by Public Law 102-590 and amended by Public Law 104-110. The purpose of the law is to provide financial assistance to establish alternative resources for homeless veterans through partnerships with non-profit or government agencies. The maximum per diem payments are \$16.00 per day for each USDVA eligible veteran that is residing at the VAP site. The contractor that operates the VAP in Milwaukee receives the per diems directly because that entity applied for the grant. The contractor that is operating the VAP program at Tomah also will begin receiving per diem payments in the fall of 1999. The DVA receives the

per diem payments for the VAP at King and will also be the recipient of the per diem payments at Southern Center. It is estimated the Department will begin receiving per diem at the Southern Center VAP in January, 2000.

There are no restrictions on the uses of the per diem funds that the Department receives. The VAP program is a statewide program. Therefore, even if per diem payments are received for residents of one site, the funds can be transferred to a different site if it is determined there is a need for the funds at that site.

Utilization of the Funds

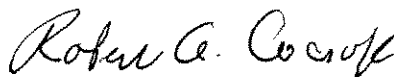
The DVA proposes to use the \$120,900 in federal per diem funds for the purposes listed below. I am attaching a worksheet that lists the expenses and revenues for the VAP sites.

1. An amount of \$42,000 for the Milwaukee VAP. The DVA provided a grant of \$250,000. The contractor also receives funding from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). However, this year, the HUD funding was cut by 50 percent. In addition, the contractor has had some unexpected maintenance problems with the building that required repair. The \$42,000 will cover the cost of the maintenance problems and cover the shortage of operating funds that resulted from the cut in HUD funding.
2. An amount of \$57,500 for the Tomah VAP. The VAP contractor purchases food service from the U. S. Department of Defense (DOD). The charges for food service from September, 1998 through June, 1999 will be approximately \$54,000. In addition, \$3,500 will be used to offset the amount that the DOD undercharged for services at Tomah during FY97 and FY98.
3. An amount of \$4,300 for the Fort McCoy VAP. The utility charges at the Fort McCoy VAP were underestimated, and \$2,750 of the funds will be used to pay these costs. The remaining \$1,550 will be utilized to hire a Limited Term Employee to provide assistance to the Fort McCoy site director during the remainder of this fiscal year.
4. An amount of \$4,000 will be utilized to market a training program to veterans in the Milwaukee area. The DVA was awarded a JTPA IV-C grant to provide employment assistance to homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless veterans. The Milwaukee VAP utilized JTPA funds to establish a computer training program for veterans residing at the site and for day service veterans. The \$4,000 will be utilized to inform veterans of the training program at the VAP site. The costs for marketing the program are not eligible under the JTPA grant program, so the per diem funds will be used to complement the JTPA grant.
5. An amount of \$13,100 will be utilized to pay for the costs of painting Ove Hall at King and for costs associated with moving the VAP site. The VAP site will be moved from Burns-Clemons Hall to Ove Hall at King this summer.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's request. If you have any questions, please contact John A. Scocos, Executive Assistant, at 266-3081.

Sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



Robert A. Cocroft
Deputy Secretary

cc: Richard Chandler, Department of Administration
Bob Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau

EXPENSE CATEGORIES	MCCOY-TOMAH	KING/CORP	MILWAUKEE	UNION GROVE	CENTRAL	TOTAL
SALARIES						
DIRECTOR	31,000	31,000	16,102	50,000		128,102
EXEC ASSISTANT		34,000	23,162			57,162
PROGRAM CLERK		14,400		22,533		36,933
CASE MANAGERS	54,000	27,000		29,293		110,293
SECURITY	54,672	59,976	14,942	50,700		180,290
FOOD SERVICE		15,000				15,000
GRANT WRITER			27,327			27,327
FRINGE	29,488	34,287	16,665	36,964		117,404
TOTAL SALARIES	169,160	215,663	98,198	189,490	0	672,511
OPERATING COSTS						
MATCH FUNDS	100,000					100,000
LEASE	5,334	2,750		5,833		13,917
UTILITIES	8,000		55,821	32,000		95,821
MAINTENANCE	4,000					4,000
TELEPHONE	5,000	10,000				24,896
SUPPLIES	4,000	1,565	5,230	4,666		20,991
FOOD	143,275	15,000	11,326	4,100		220,965
CONTRACTS	3,000	3,000	24,270	38,420		49,853
INSURANCE	5,000	5,000	2,589	4,000	13,083	16,589
TRANSPORTATION	34,560	5,000	6,178	11,500		57,238
INSURANCE	3,756	3,756				7,512
TRAVEL		500	405	2,500		3,405
MISC	3,800		1,850	87,000		96,657
STAFF TRAINING		500	2,427		4,007	2,927
EQUIPMENT	5,000		4,195			9,195
POSTAGE	900	1,500	1,336	875		4,611
SERVICE & UTILITY CHARGES	6,250					6,250
OPERATING SHORTAGE & TRNG			46,000			46,000
LTE	1,550					1,550
TOTAL OPERATING	333,425	48,571	185,897	197,394	17,090	782,377
INDIRECT COSTS						
			11,905	10,316		22,221
TOTAL EXPENSES	502,585	264,234	296,000	397,200	17,090	1,477,109
REVENUES						
BASE BUDGET						800,000
FY98 CARRYOVER						50,327
FUNDING FOR SWC						397,200
PER DIEM						182,000
DA REIMBURSEMENT						108,336
TOTAL REVENUES						1,537,863