

**2015 DRAFTING REQUEST**

**Senate Amendment (SA-SSA1-SB21)**

Received: 7/6/2015 Received By: mgallagh  
For: Jon Erpenbach (608) 266-6670 Same as LRB:  
May Contact: By/Representing: Julie  
Subject: Veterans - miscellaneous Drafter: mgallagh  
Veterans - veterans benefits Addl. Drafters:  
Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES  
Requester's email: Sen.Erpenbach@legis.wisconsin.gov  
Carbon copy (CC) to: michael.gallagher@legis.wisconsin.gov

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**Pre Topic:**

No specific pre topic given

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**Topic:**

Changes concerning veterans.

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**Instructions:**

See attached

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**Drafting History:**

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	mgallagh 7/7/2015	eweiss 7/7/2015	_____			
/1			_____	sbasford 7/7/2015	sbasford 7/7/2015	

FE Sent For:

<END>

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/?	mgallagh		==			

FE Sent For:

\* Send Jacketed Draft  
 <END> to Sen. Shilling's  
 office. Thanks \*  
 MFL

Senator Taylor  
Senator Erpenbach  
Representative Taylor  
Representative Hintz

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Assistance to Needy Veterans Program

#### Motion:

Move to expand the purposes of the assistance to needy veterans program to cover mental health and substance abuse treatment. Require DVA to issue a provider voucher to an eligible veteran or eligible spouse or dependents under the program for services related to mental health and substance abuse treatment, including private and emergency counseling, family and marriage counseling, and suicide prevention. Require the Department to provide the voucher within 48 hours of a request for services made directly to the Department or through a county veterans service office. Specify that it is not necessary for a veteran or eligible family member to be denied service at a U.S. VA hospital or clinic or be denied coverage by USDVA, state medical assistance, or other insurance prior to seeking and receiving a voucher for mental health and substance abuse services under the assistance to needy veterans program.

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#### Note:

The assistance for needy veterans program provides subsistence payments and health care assistance to veterans who meet certain criteria related to income and assets, to unremarried spouses and dependent children of veterans who died while on active duty, or to spouses and dependents of members of the U.S. armed forces or Wisconsin National Guard who experience a loss of income as the result of activation or deployment. Healthcare assistance consists of assistance with dental care, vision care, and hearing care, including dentures, eyeglasses, and hearing aids. This motion would extend healthcare assistance to mental health and substance abuse services, but would apply certain special provisions to assistance for those services. First, DVA would be required to provide a voucher for mental health or substance abuse services within 48 hours. Second, the eligible applicant would not need to be denied services or coverage under U.S. VA health care, state medical assistance, or private insurance before being eligible to receive a voucher.

Posted By  
Wheeler Reports, Inc.

Senator Taylor  
Senator Erpenbach  
Representative Taylor  
Representative Hintz

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Reimbursement of Travel Expenses for Veterans

Motion:

Move to modify a provision in the bill that would allow the Department to reimburse any veteran who incurs travel expenses relating to an appearance that occurred at the request of the state, to remove the \$2,000 annual reimbursement limit.

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Note:

The bill would authorize the Department to reimburse veterans for travel expenses related to appearance made at the request of the state. Total annual reimbursement would be limited to \$2,000. This motion would eliminate the annual limit.

**Posted By:**  
Wheeler Reports, Inc.

in Exp 6-6671  
Julie @

Send to Shilling office

One Amendment

① Travel expenses cap for funerals? - \$12,000

REMOVE CAP

② Residency for needy veterans - <sup>in 999</sup>  
return to gov's provision

③ Needy Veterans -

Mental Health

can apply for reimbursement  
reduce gap b/w call & treatment -

Speed up process

D-Note  
Needy vets  
PHCP.

Offered as a motion but  
Julie can't remember #



State of Wisconsin  
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRBb0667(?)<sup>e1</sup>

MPG:...

emw

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**  
**SENATE AMENDMENT ,**  
**TO SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,**  
**TO SENATE BILL 21**

S.A. ✓  
xref ✓

1 At the locations indicated, amend the substitute amendment as follows:

2 **1.** Page 447, line 19: delete the material beginning with “but” and ending with  
3 “veteran” on line 20.

4 **2.** Page 447, line 20: after that line insert:

5 “SECTION 1452a. 45.40 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 45.40 (2) (a) The department may provide health care aid to a veteran for  
7 dental care, including dentures; vision care, including eyeglass frames and lenses;  
8 and hearing care, including hearing aids; and care related to mental illness or  
9 treatment for substance abuse.

10 SECTION 1452b. 45.40 (2) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

1           45.40 (2) (d) The department shall provide a voucher for care related to mental  
2 illness or treatment for substance abuse within 48 hours after a request to the  
3 department or through a county veterans service office for such care, including  
4 private and emergency counseling, family and marriage counseling, and suicide  
5 prevention. A veteran or eligible family member is not required to be denied care at  
6 a U.S. department of veterans affairs hospital or clinic or be denied coverage by the  
7 U.S. department of veterans affairs, state medical assistance, or other insurance  
8 before seeking and receiving a voucher under this paragraph. (2)

9           **3.** Page 447, line 21: after that line insert:

10           ~~SECTION 1447t.~~ 45.40 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

11           45.40 (6) EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY. The eligibility requirements under s. 45.02 (2)  
12 do not apply to a person applying for assistance under this section.".

13           (END)