2017 SENATE BILL 818

February 21, 2018 – Introduced by Senators ERPENBACH, CARPENTER and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives HESSELBEIN, SARGENT, SINICKI, SHANKLAND, HEBL, ZAMARRIPA, ZEPNICK, KOLSTE, BERCEAU, ANDERSON and CROWLEY. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs.

AN ACT to create 20.485 (2) (bm) and 45.465 of the statutes; relating to: grants for a text message-based hotline for veterans in crisis and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to award grants totalling up to $200,000 per fiscal year from the general fund to one or more persons to establish and administer a statewide text message-based hotline for veterans in crisis. The grant program sunsets effective July 1, 2022.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert the following amounts for the purposes indicated:
SEC. 1. Senate Bill 818

20.485 Veterans affairs, department of

(2) Loans and aids to veterans

(bm) Text message-based crisis hotline GPR A -0- 200,000

SEC. 2. 20.485 (2) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

20.485 (2) (bm) Text message-based crisis hotline. From the general fund, the amounts in the schedule for grants under s. 45.465 to establish and administer a text message-based hotline for veterans in crisis.

SEC. 3. 45.465 of the statutes is created to read:

45.465 Text message-based crisis hotline. (1) Grants. From the appropriation under s. 20.485 (2) (bm), the department shall award grants to one or more persons to establish and administer a statewide text message-based hotline that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for veterans in crisis.

(2) Sunset. This section does not apply after June 30, 2022.

SEC. 4. Effective date.

(1) This act takes effect on first day of the 7th month beginning after publication.