



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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May 7, 2015

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #732

### **Transfer Veterans Employment Programs to DVA (DWD -- Departmentwide)**

[LFB 2015-17 Budget Summary: Page 545, #5]

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#### **CURRENT LAW**

Under 2013 Act 20, the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) were required to prepare a plan for transfer of the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) and the Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) program from DWD to DVA and to submit that plan to the US Department of Labor Secretary (USDOL) for approval. The act also stated that if the USDOL approved the plan, the programs would be transferred.

#### **GOVERNOR**

Modify the 2013 Act 20 provision to make this transfer, instead, contingent on the approval of the Governor.

#### **MODIFICATION**

Delete provision as requested by the administration.

**Explanation:** On March 27, 2015, the Governor received a letter from the USDOL rejecting the State's request to move the administration of DVOP and LVER programs from DWD to DVA. Citing significant programmatic changes in federal workforce development policy, as contained in the 2011 Vow to Hire Heroes Act, the 2014 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and USDOL's statutory obligation (38 U.S.C 4102A) to ensure coordination of veterans employment programs with state public workforce systems, USDOL denied the State of Wisconsin's request. Given this federal denial, a transfer of the program could jeopardize federal funding of the programs. In an April 13 letter to the Committee Co-Chairs, the administration has requested that current law be maintained.

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