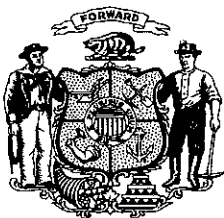


# STATE OF WISCONSIN

SENATE CHAIR  
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## JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

### MEMORANDUM

To: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling  
Representative John Nygren

Date: July 14, 2016

Re: DVA Report to JFC

Attached is a report on the Veterans Trust Fund from the Department of Veterans Affairs, pursuant to s. 45.03(13)(p), Stats.

This report is being provided for your information only. No action by the Committee is required. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Attachments

AD:JN:jm

Scott Walker, Governor  
John A. Scocos, Secretary



STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

201 West Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 7843  
Madison, WI 53707-7843  
Phone: (608) 266-1311  
Toll-free: 1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387)  
Fax: (608) 267-0403  
Email: WisVets@dva.wisconsin.gov  
Website: www.WisVets.com

June 29, 2016

Senator Alberta Darling  
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance  
Room 317 East, State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

JUL 14 2016  
J. Finance

Representative John Nygren  
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance  
Room 309 East, State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

2013 Wisconsin Act 20, s. 45.03 (13)(p), requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to submit a Veterans Trust Fund (VTF) report before June 30 of the even numbered years describing the condition of the VTF.

Attached is a spreadsheet and chart outlining the Department's estimated VTF condition report. Per our previous projections, the VTF became insolvent in the first quarter of FY 2016. However, the department has been able to extend the life of the VTF due to the continued efforts to be fiscally responsible while ensuring that funds are being used effectively to provide the best services possible for Wisconsin veterans.

The condition report illustrates a transfer from the Homes appropriations of \$12 million to alleviate any negative balances. This transfer is pursuant to s. 45.57 (1), Wis. Stats., which permits the department to transfer all or part of the unencumbered balance of any homes appropriations to the VTF. The extraordinary turnaround and success of the homes, due to a commitment to efficiencies, cost savings, maintaining census levels and optimizing federal funds has made the DVA self-sufficient for the foreseeable future.

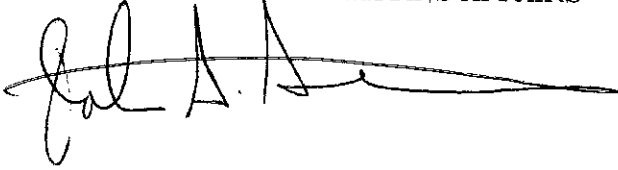
As directed in s. 45.03 (13)(p)2, Wis. Stats., the department shall include information in the report regarding any changes in projected revenue, expenditures, or balances of the VTF after the enactment of the most recent biennial budget. There were two bills that are included in the VTF condition report that will change the financials:

1. A grant program was authorized under s. 45.46 (2015 Act 383), *Grants to nonprofit organizations that serve veterans and their families*, as defined in s. 108.02 (19), Wis. Stats. The Department may award grants of up to a total of \$250,000 utilizing existing authority under s. 20.485(2)(tf) that is historically underspent.
2. Another grant program was authorized under s. 45.437 (2015 Act 385), *Veterans employment and entrepreneurship grants*. The department may award up to \$500,000 annually in grants to veterans, employers, and nonprofit organizations as created in s. 20.485 (2)(qm).

Securing the ongoing solvency of the Veterans Trust Fund has always been a shared priority of the Governor, the Legislature, the Department and our state veterans.

We welcome any questions you may have concerning the Veterans Trust Fund.

Sincerely,  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Scocos", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JOHN A. SCOCOS  
Secretary

Attachment

**Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs**  
**Veterans Trust Fund - Condition Report**  
as of 6/29/2016

	FY 2016 (est)	FY 2017 (est)	FY 2018 (est)
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 4,996,635	\$ 5,429,769	\$ (0)
Revenues	\$ 1,597,208	\$ 1,597,208	\$ 1,597,208
Expenditures	\$ (13,924,906)	\$ (13,924,906)	\$ (13,924,906)
Change in Receivables/Payables	\$ 760,832	\$ 400,000	\$ 240,000
Transfers (GPR, Homes)	\$ 12,000,000	\$ 6,497,928	\$ 12,087,698
Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Balance	\$ 433,134	\$ (5,429,770)	\$ 0
Ending Balance	\$ 5,429,769	\$ (0)	\$ (0)