



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5185/1
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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.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 20.485 (2) (bm) and 45.465 of the statutes; **relating to:** grants
2 for a text message-based hotline for veterans in crisis and making an
3 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:

4 **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
5 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

SENATE BILL 818**SECTION 1****2017-18****2018-19****1 20.485 Veterans affairs, department of****2 (2) LOANS AND AIDS TO VETERANS****3 (bm) Text message-based crisis hot-****4 line GPR A -0- 200,000****5 SECTION 2.** 20.485 (2) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

6 20.485 (2) (bm) *Text message-based crisis hotline.* From the general fund, the
7 amounts in the schedule for grants under s. 45.465 to establish and administer a text
8 message-based hotline for veterans in crisis.

9 SECTION 3. 45.465 of the statutes is created to read:

10 45.465 Text message-based crisis hotline. (1) GRANTS. From the
11 appropriation under s. 20.485 (2) (bm), the department shall award grants to one or
12 more persons to establish and administer a statewide text message-based hotline
13 that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for veterans in crisis.

14 (2) SUNSET. This section does not apply after June 30, 2022.**15 SECTION 4. Effective date.**

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

18 (END)