Budget Briefing: Military and Veterans Affairs

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Briefing Topics

- Funding Sources
- Appropriation Areas
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Department Military and Veterans Affairs

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs serves the dual purpose of providing an operational military force in support of state and federal homeland security needs and providing a network of services and programs in support of the state's veteran population and their families.

- The **Michigan National Guard** serves to protect the lives and property of Michigan citizens during times of emergency and civil unrest, and to assist the federal government in defending the sovereign interest of the United States. Ongoing state-level operations include:
  - Maintaining operational armories
  - Maintaining operational military training sites and support facilities
  - The Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Academy (MYCA)
  - The Military Family Relief Fund
  - The Starbase Grant
  - The Michigan National Guard Tuition Assistance Program

- The **Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA)** has oversight responsibility over the delivery of services and programs to veterans. This includes:
  - The Michigan Veterans' Facility Authority
  - Operation of the state veterans homes (Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti in Marquette)
  - The Michigan Veterans Trust Fund
  - Veterans Service Organization (VSO) grants
Key Budget Terms

**Fiscal Year:** The state's fiscal year (FY) runs from October to September. FY 2017-18 is October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

**Appropriation:** Authority to expend funds. An appropriation is not a mandate to spend. Constitutionally, state funds cannot be expended without an appropriation by the Legislature.

**Line Item:** Specific appropriation amount in a budget bill which establishes spending authorization for a particular program or function.

**Boilerplate:** Specific language sections in a budget bill which direct, limit, or restrict line item expenditures, express legislative intent, and/or require reports.

**Lapse:** Appropriated amounts that are unspent or unobligated at the end of a fiscal year. Appropriations are automatically terminated at the end of a fiscal year unless designated as a multi-year work project under a statutory process. Lapsed funds are available for expenditure in the subsequent fiscal year.

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, historical budget figures in this presentation have not been adjusted for inflation.
Funding Sources
# FY 2017-18 DMVA Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Source</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Appropriations</td>
<td>$179,504,400</td>
<td>Total spending authority from all revenue sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental Grants (IDG) Revenue</td>
<td>101,800</td>
<td>Funds received by one state department from another state department, usually for services provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjusted Gross Appropriations</td>
<td>$179,402,600</td>
<td>Gross appropriations excluding IDGs; avoids double counting when adding appropriation amounts across budget areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Revenue</td>
<td>92,334,100</td>
<td>Federal grant or matching revenue; generally dedicated to specific programs or purposes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Revenue</td>
<td>1,528,400</td>
<td>Revenue received from local units of government for state services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Revenue</td>
<td>640,000</td>
<td>Revenue from individuals and private entities, including payments for services, grants, and other contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Restricted Revenue</td>
<td>22,332,600</td>
<td>State revenue restricted by the State Constitution, state statute, or outside restriction that is available only for specified purposes; includes most fee revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) Revenue</td>
<td>$62,567,500</td>
<td>Unrestricted revenue from taxes and other sources available to fund basic state programs and other purposes determined by the Legislature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FY 2017-18 Fund Sources

Approximately 51% of the $179.5 million DMVA budget consists of federal funding, which includes matching funds for armory and training site operations and maintenance, the MYCA, the state veterans' homes, and the Starbase program.
DMVA Share of Total State Budget

The DMVA budget represents less than 1% of the $55.8 billion state budget (adjusted gross) for FY 2017-18.
DMVA Share of Total GF/GP Budget

The DMVA budget represents less than 1% of the $10.1 billion state GF/GP budget appropriations for FY 2017-18.
Funding for Military and Veterans Affairs has grown by approximately 70% since FY 2002-03. Large portions of the overall increase comes from the establishment of the MVAA in 2012, as well as increasing federal revenues over the time period.
Appropriation Areas
DMVA Appropriation Areas

**Military:** Unclassified positions, the state's National Guard armories and training facilities, the MYCA and Starbase program, and other National Guard operations.

**MVAA:** The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans and the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette, the veterans homes Board of Managers, the Michigan Veterans' Facilities Authority, grants and administrative costs of the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund, targeted and VSO grants, and MVAA administrative costs.

**Capital Outlay:** Special maintenance projects pertaining to National Guard headquarters and armories and the state veterans homes.

**Information Technology:** Provides for the department's IT services and projects.

**One-Time Appropriations:** The FY 2017-18 budget includes one-time funding for National Guard armory maintenance.

Note: The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans falls under its own appropriation unit in the FY 2017-18 budget. However, it is still administered by the MVAA.
51% of the $179.5 million DMVA budget supports veterans services and related administrative costs, the large majority of which are funded through GF/GP appropriations.
FY 2017-18 GF/GP Appropriations

GF/GP funds (totaling $62.6 million) are more heavily concentrated in veterans services – with the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans receiving the most – and less heavily concentrated in military operations.
Major Budget Topics
FY 2017-18 Military Appropriations

Funding for Military Training Sites and Support Facilities comprise of 51% of the total appropriations ($67.2 million) for the Military appropriation unit.
Federal revenues comprise of 70% of the total fund sources for the Military appropriation unit.
Armories and Training Centers

Army National Guard Training Sites
• Camp Grayling
• Fort Custer Training Center

Air National Guard Training Sites
• Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center
• Battle Creek Air Base
• Selfridge Air Base

Source: DMVA
Michigan National Guard – Assigned Strength

Total assigned strength in the Michigan National Guard has decreased by 17% to approximately 10,400 personnel between FY 1994-95 and the end of FY 2016-17, with Army strength decreasing by 18% and Air strength decreasing by 16%.
Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Academy

Voluntary basic training-style program for at-risk youth administered by the department. The program includes two 22-week residential programs (Ft. Custer) per calendar year, followed by a 12-month post-residential mentoring phase for graduates. Academic, vocational, and fiduciary services are under contract with Marshall Public Schools.
FY 2017-18 MVAA Appropriations

Administrative and personnel costs comprise of 39% of the total appropriations ($18.3 million) for the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.
FY 2017-18 MVAA Fund Sources

GF/GP appropriations comprise of approximately two-thirds of the total fund sources for the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.

GF/GP
$12,046,700
66%

State Restricted
$5,665,400
31%

Private
$540,000
3%
Michigan Veterans Population

The total estimated statewide veteran population is approximately 607,000. Wayne County is home to the largest proportion of veterans with an approximate population of 86,000, followed by Oakland and Macomb Counties with approximately 58,000 and 51,000 veterans, respectively.

Source: Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; Population projections extracted from the USDVA VetPop2014 survey.
Michigan Veterans Trust Fund

Established in 1946 with $50.0 million in principal, the trust fund investment earnings provide emergency financial assistance grants to veterans for temporary, unforeseen hardships (e.g., housing, utilities, food, medical, and transportation).

VETERANS TRUST FUND
$50.0 million principal

Annual Investment Earnings of Fund

Administrative Costs: $622,500 in FY 2015-16

Quarterly Payments to County Treasurers (based on county veteran population)

County-Level Administrative Costs: $215,000 in FY 2015-16

Emergency Grants to Veterans

Emergency Grant Program: $1.2 million in FY 2015-16

50%

Retained by State Board of Trustees for Special Allotment Requests

50%

Special Allotments
Veterans Service Organization Grants

Grant payments to VSOs have decreased by approximately 1% between FY 2001-02 and FY 2017-18. Funding reductions between FY 2009-10 and FY 2012-13 were due in large part to Great Recession era budget cuts, among other issues.
FY 2017-18 Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Appropriations

Salary and benefits costs comprise of 62% of the total appropriations ($50.4 million) for the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. Contracted (private) employee services are paid through the purchased services line item.
FY 2017-18 Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Fund Sources

Federal revenues (USDVA Veterans Health Administration, Medicare, and Medicaid) comprise of approximately 42% of the total fund sources for the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. State restricted revenues consist of income and assessments paid by resident veterans.
FY 2017-18 D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans Fund Sources

Federal revenues (USDVA Veterans Health Administration, Medicare, and Medicaid) comprise of 38% of the total fund sources for the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans. State restricted revenues consist of income and assessments paid by resident veterans.
Veterans Homes Funding

Between FY 2010-11 and FY 2017-18, gross appropriations to the Grand Rapids Home have decreased by approximately 4% while increasing by approximately 32% for the Jacobetti Home over the same period. Declining revenues for the Grand Rapids Home are due in large part to declining member census and the inability of some veterans to pay assessment fees.
Veterans Homes GF/GP Funding

Between FY 2010-11 and FY 2017-18, GF/GP appropriations to the Grand Rapids and Jacobetti Homes have increased by approximately 57% and 94%, respectively. Increasing GF/GP appropriations are due in large part to offset restricted fund revenue shortfalls due to declining member census and the inability of some veterans to pay the maximum assessment fees.
Veterans Homes Population

Total veteran membership at the Grand Rapids Home has decreased by approximately 60% between the end of FY 2003-04 and the end of 2017, while veteran membership at the D.J. Jacobetti Home in Marquette has decreased by approximately 3% over the same time period.
FY 2017-18 One-Time Appropriations

Armory Maintenance: $2.5 million GF/GP allocated by the state for armory sustainment, restoration, and modernization, which is matched by the federal government – through the National Guard Bureau of the Department of Defense – on a 50/50 basis.
For more information about the Military and Veterans Affairs budget:

HFA Resources

http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/Militaryandvetaffairs.asp

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