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SENATE FILE 2115  
BY LAMBERTI

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to and making appropriations concerning veterans.  
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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APPROPRIATIONS  
SF 2115

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 35A.14 VETERANS SPECIALTY FUND.

2 1. For the purposes of this section, "veteran" means the  
3 same as defined in section 35.1 or a resident of this state  
4 who served in the armed forces of the United States, completed  
5 a minimum aggregate of ninety days of active federal service,  
6 and was discharged under honorable conditions.

7 2. A veterans specialty fund is created in the state  
8 treasury under the control of the commission.

9 3. The specialty fund shall consist of all of the  
10 following:

11 a. Moneys in the form of a devise, gift, bequest,  
12 donation, federal or other grant, reimbursement, repayment,  
13 judgment, transfer, payment, or appropriation from any source  
14 intended to be used for the purposes of the specialty fund.

15 b. Interest attributable to investment of moneys in the  
16 specialty fund or in an account of the specialty fund.

17 Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest or  
18 earnings on moneys in the specialty fund shall be credited to  
19 the specialty fund.

20 4. Moneys credited to the specialty fund shall not be  
21 transferred, used, obligated, appropriated, or otherwise  
22 encumbered, except for purposes related to veterans as  
23 provided in the appropriations from the specialty fund.  
24 Moneys in the specialty fund may be used for cash flow  
25 purposes during a fiscal year provided that any moneys so  
26 allocated are returned to the specialty fund by the end of  
27 that fiscal year.

28 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATIONS FOR VETERANS-RELATED PROGRAMS FY  
29 2006-2007. Notwithstanding section 12.65, subsection 2, and  
30 section 12E.12, subsection 1, paragraph "b", subparagraph (2),  
31 there is appropriated from the endowment for Iowa's health  
32 account of the tobacco settlement trust fund established in  
33 section 12E.12 to the following departments for the fiscal  
34 year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007, the  
35 following amounts, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be

1 used for the purposes designated:

2 1. To the department of veterans affairs for deposit in  
3 the veterans specialty fund created in section 35A.14:  
4 ..... \$ 25,000,000

5 Of the funds appropriated in this section, \$5,000,000 is  
6 allocated to the department of veterans affairs for deposit in  
7 the veterans trust fund created in section 35A.13 to be used  
8 for the purposes specified in that section.

9 Of the funds appropriated in this section, \$1,200,000 is  
10 allocated to the department of cultural affairs to be used for  
11 the Sullivan brothers Iowa veterans museum for the technology  
12 necessary to display and store testimonials of Iowa veterans.

13 2. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated or  
14 allocated under this section that remain unencumbered or  
15 unobligated at the close of the fiscal year shall not revert  
16 but shall remain available for expenditure for the purposes  
17 designated until the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

18 Sec. 3. COUNTY VETERANS COORDINATORS -- APPROPRIATION.

19 There is appropriated from the veterans specialty fund created  
20 in section 35A.14 to the department of veterans affairs, for  
21 the designated fiscal years, the following amounts, or so much  
22 thereof as is necessary, to be allocated and used to provide  
23 financial assistance to counties to provide a specialized  
24 veterans coordinator in the county:

25	FY 2006-2007.....	\$	1,230,000
26	FY 2007-2008.....	\$	1,230,000
27	FY 2008-2009.....	\$	1,230,000
28	FY 2009-2010.....	\$	1,230,000
29	FY 2010-2011.....	\$	1,230,000

30 1. The department of veterans affairs shall adopt rules  
31 relating to the provision of financial assistance to counties  
32 for specialized veterans coordinators. The rules adopted  
33 shall include but are not limited to all of the following:

34 a. Minimum qualifications for a specialized veterans  
35 coordinator.

1 b. A requirement that each specialized veterans  
2 coordinator devote at least 20 hours weekly to veterans  
3 duties.

4 c. A provision that financial assistance provided by the  
5 state will be equal to 50 percent of the cost of providing a  
6 specialized veterans coordinator in an individual county and  
7 will be equal to 60 percent of the cost if two or more  
8 counties share a coordinator.

9 d. A formula for prorating the funds available in any  
10 fiscal year if the requests of counties for financial  
11 assistance under this section exceed the amount of funds  
12 available in that fiscal year.

13 2. The department of veterans affairs shall report  
14 annually to the governor and the general assembly regarding  
15 the amount of funds expended under this section, the identity  
16 of recipients of funding under this section, and the  
17 accomplishments of the specialized veterans coordinators  
18 including but not limited to the number of veterans served and  
19 any resulting increases in benefits to veterans.

20 3. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated under  
21 this section that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the  
22 close of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain  
23 available for expenditure for the purposes designated until  
24 the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

25 Sec. 4. VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS -- APPROPRIATION.  
26 There is appropriated from the veterans specialty fund created  
27 in section 35A.14 to the department of veterans affairs, for  
28 the designated fiscal years, the following amounts, or so much  
29 thereof as is necessary, to be used to provide matching funds  
30 to veterans service organizations for the support of veterans  
31 services offices:

32 FY 2006-2007.....	\$	800,000
33 FY 2007-2008.....	\$	800,000
34 FY 2008-2009.....	\$	800,000
35 FY 2009-2010.....	\$	800,000

1 FY 2010-2011..... \$ 800,000

2 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated under  
3 this section that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the  
4 close of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain  
5 available for expenditure for the purposes designated until  
6 the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

7 Sec. 5. NATIONAL GUARD HOUSING ASSISTANCE --

8 APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the veterans  
9 specialty fund created in section 35A.14 to the Iowa finance  
10 authority for the designated fiscal years, the following  
11 amounts, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for  
12 continuation of the home ownership assistance program for  
13 persons who are eligible members of the armed forces of the  
14 United States implemented pursuant to 2003 Iowa Acts, chapter  
15 179, section 21, subsection 5, as enacted by 2005 Iowa Acts,  
16 chapter 161, section 1, and amended by 2005 Iowa Acts, chapter  
17 115, section 37:

18 FY 2006-2007..... \$ 1,730,000

19 FY 2007-2008..... \$ 1,730,000

20 FY 2008-2009..... \$ 1,730,000

21 FY 2009-2010..... \$ 1,730,000

22 FY 2010-2011..... \$ 1,730,000

23 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated under  
24 this section that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the  
25 close of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain  
26 available for expenditure for the purposes designated until  
27 the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

28 EXPLANATION

29 This bill relates to and makes appropriations concerning  
30 veterans. The bill creates a new fund, the veterans specialty  
31 fund, under the control of the commission of veterans affairs.  
32 Moneys deposited in the fund are to be used for the purposes  
33 related to veterans as provided in the appropriations from the  
34 fund.

35 The bill makes appropriations for FY 2006-2007. The bill

1 appropriates \$25,000,000 from the endowment for Iowa's health  
2 account of the tobacco settlement trust fund to the department  
3 of veterans affairs for deposit in the newly created veterans  
4 specialty fund. Of the funds appropriated, for FY 2006-2007,  
5 \$5,000,000 is allocated to the department of veterans affairs  
6 for deposit in the veterans specialty fund created in Code  
7 section 35A.14 to be used for the purposes specified in that  
8 Code section and \$1,200,000 is allocated to the department of  
9 cultural affairs to be used for the Sullivan brothers Iowa  
10 veterans museum for the technology necessary to display and  
11 store testimonials of Iowa veterans. Moneys appropriated or  
12 allocated under this Code section that remain unencumbered or  
13 unobligated at the close of the fiscal year do not revert but  
14 remain available for expenditure for the purposes designated  
15 until the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

16 The bill appropriates \$1.23 million for each fiscal year  
17 beginning with FY 2006-2007 and ending with FY 2010-2011 from  
18 the veterans specialty fund to the department of veterans  
19 affairs, to be used to provide financial assistance to  
20 counties to provide a specialized veterans coordinator in the  
21 county. The bill directs the department of veterans affairs  
22 to adopt rules relating to the provision of financial  
23 assistance to counties for specialized veterans coordinators  
24 including minimum qualifications for a specialized veterans  
25 coordinator, a requirement that each specialized veterans  
26 coordinator devote at least 20 hours weekly to veterans  
27 duties, a provision that financial assistance provided by the  
28 state will be equal to 50 percent of the cost of providing a  
29 specialized veterans coordinator in an individual county and  
30 will be equal to 60 percent of the cost if two or more  
31 counties share a coordinator, a formula for prorating the  
32 funds available in any fiscal year if the requests of counties  
33 for financial assistance exceed the amount of funds available  
34 in that fiscal year. The bill directs the department of  
35 veterans affairs to report, annually, to the governor and the

1 general assembly regarding the amount of funds expended, the  
2 identity of recipients of funding, and the accomplishments of  
3 the specialty veterans coordinators, including but not limited  
4 to the number of veterans served and any resulting increases  
5 in benefits to veterans. Moneys appropriated that remain  
6 unencumbered or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year do  
7 not revert but remain available for expenditure for the  
8 purposes designated until the close of the succeeding fiscal  
9 year.

10 The bill appropriates \$800,000 for each fiscal year  
11 beginning with FY 2006-2007 and ending with FY 2010-2011 from  
12 the veterans specialty fund to the department of veterans  
13 affairs, to be used to provide matching funds to veterans  
14 service organizations for the support of veterans services  
15 offices. Moneys appropriated that remain unencumbered or  
16 unobligated at the close of the fiscal year do not revert but  
17 remain available for expenditure for the purposes designated  
18 until the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

19 The bill appropriates \$1.73 million for each fiscal year  
20 beginning with FY 2006-2007 and ending with FY 2010-2011 from  
21 the veterans specialty fund to the Iowa finance authority to  
22 be used for a home ownership assistance program for persons  
23 who are eligible members of the armed forces of the United  
24 States. An "eligible member of the armed forces of the United  
25 States" means a resident of this state who is or was a member  
26 of the national guard, reserve, or regular component of the  
27 armed forces of the United States who has served at least 90  
28 days of active duty service during the period beginning  
29 September 11, 2001, and ending June 30, 2011. If the eligible  
30 member is deceased, the surviving spouse of the eligible  
31 member is eligible for a loan under the program, subject to  
32 the surviving spouse meeting the program's eligibility  
33 requirements other than the military service requirement.  
34 Moneys appropriated that remain unencumbered or unobligated at  
35 the close of the fiscal year do not revert but remain

1 available for expenditure for the purposes designated until  
2 the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

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