

Veterans’ and Military Affairs  
Coordinator – Jacob Phillips  
Office of Fiscal Analysis

	Page #	Analyst	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Agency Requested		Governor Recommended		% Diff Gov - App FY 26
					FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	
General Fund									
Department of Veterans' Affairs	2	JP	26,425,913	27,344,272	29,003,392	29,283,946	28,997,725	28,997,725	6.05
Military Department	4	ME	6,234,423	6,420,298	6,616,515	6,971,515	6,573,315	6,891,015	2.38
Total - General Fund			32,660,336	33,764,570	35,619,907	36,255,461	35,571,040	35,888,740	5.35
Total - Appropriated Funds			32,660,336	33,764,570	35,619,907	36,255,461	35,571,040	35,888,740	5.35

## Department of Veterans' Affairs

### DVA21000

#### Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Agency Requested		Governor Recommended		% Diff Gov-App FY 26
			FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	
General Fund	241	241	241	241	241	241	-

#### Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Agency Requested		Governor Recommended		% Diff Gov-App FY 26
			FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	
Personal Services	21,919,442	22,917,263	24,368,087	24,648,641	23,298,956	23,298,956	1.67
Other Expenses	3,221,896	3,066,113	3,274,409	3,274,409	4,066,113	4,066,113	32.61
<b>Other Current Expenses</b>							
SSMF Administration	560,345	546,396	546,396	546,396	560,345	560,345	2.55
Veterans' Opportunity Pilot	38,041	-	-	-	245,047	245,047	n/a
Veterans' Rally Point	512,764	500,000	500,000	500,000	512,764	512,764	2.55
<b>Other Than Payments to Local Governments</b>							
Burial Expenses	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	-
Headstones	166,759	307,834	307,834	307,834	307,834	307,834	-
<b>Agency Total - General Fund</b>	<b>26,425,913</b>	<b>27,344,272</b>	<b>29,003,392</b>	<b>29,283,946</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>	<b>6.05</b>

Account	Governor Recommended	
	FY 26	FY 27

## Policy Revisions

### Transfer Veterans' Opportunity Pilot to DVA

Veterans' Opportunity Pilot	245,047	245,047
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>245,047</b>	<b>245,047</b>

#### Background

The Veterans Opportunity Pilot Program was created within the Department of Labor (DOL) in 2014 to assist veterans seeking job opportunities. Due to the pandemic, this program ceased operations in March 2020, and it has not since been reestablished.

#### Governor

Transfer funding of \$245,047 in both FY 26 and FY 27 for the Veterans' Opportunity Pilot from the Department of Labor to the Department of Veterans' Affairs to better align with programmatic requirements.

## Current Services

### Annualize FY 2025 Private Provider COLA

SSMF Administration	13,949	13,949
Veterans' Rally Point	12,764	12,764
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>26,713</b>	<b>26,713</b>

#### Background

Private provider organizations contract to provide direct health and human services for clients of various state agencies, including: the Departments of Aging and Disability Services, Children and Families, Correction, Developmental, Housing, Mental

Account	Governor Recommended	
	FY 26	FY 27

Health and Addiction Services, Public Health, Social Services, Veteran's Affairs, the Office of Early Childhood, and the Judicial Department.

**Governor**

Provide funding of \$26,713 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to support annualization of the private provider COLA.

### Adjust Funding to Reflect Current Requirements

Other Expenses	1,000,000	1,000,000
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>

**Background**

Provides funding to address increased costs in the Other Expenses account due to rising food, utility, and medication costs in the department's skilled nursing facility.

**Governor**

Increase funding by \$1,000,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current agency requirements.

### Reduce Funding to Reflect Current Staffing Levels

Personal Services	(600,000)	(600,000)
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>(600,000)</b>	<b>(600,000)</b>

**Governor**

Reduce funding by \$600,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current agency requirements.

### Annualize Cost of Existing Wage Agreements

Personal Services	981,693	981,693
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>981,693</b>	<b>981,693</b>

**Background**

The Governor's Recommended Budget provides funding of \$124.4 million in FY 26 and FY 27, across nine appropriated funds, to reflect current wage-related adjustments resulting from existing wage agreements.

**Governor**

Provide funding of \$981,693 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect this agency's increased wage costs.

### Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended	
	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - GF	27,344,272	27,344,272
Policy Revisions	245,047	245,047
Current Services	1,408,406	1,408,406
<b>Total Recommended - GF</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>	<b>28,997,725</b>

Military Department  
MIL36000

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Agency Requested		Governor Recommended		% Diff Gov-App FY 26
			FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	
General Fund	41	41	41	41	41	41	-

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Agency Requested		Governor Recommended		% Diff Gov-App FY 26
			FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	
Personal Services	3,188,208	3,413,875	3,560,092	3,560,092	3,560,092	3,560,092	4.28
Other Expenses	2,519,175	2,344,823	2,429,823	2,429,823	2,429,823	2,429,823	3.63
<b>Other Current Expenses</b>							
Honor Guards	463,440	561,600	561,600	561,600	521,600	521,600	(7.12)
Veteran's Service Bonuses	63,600	100,000	65,000	420,000	61,800	379,500	(38.20)
<b>Agency Total - General Fund</b>	<b>6,234,423</b>	<b>6,420,298</b>	<b>6,616,515</b>	<b>6,971,515</b>	<b>6,573,315</b>	<b>6,891,015</b>	<b>2.38</b>

Account	Governor Recommended	
	FY 26	FY 27

Current Services

Annualize the Cost of Existing Wage Agreements

Personal Services	146,217	146,217
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>146,217</b>	<b>146,217</b>

Background

The Governor’s Recommended Budget provides funding of \$124.4 million in FY 26 and FY 27, across nine appropriated funds, to reflect current wage-related adjustments resulting from existing wage agreements.

Governor

Provide funding of \$146,217 in FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect this agency’s increased wage costs.

Adjust Funding to Reflect Anticipated Payments

Honor Guards	(40,000)	(40,000)
Veteran's Service Bonuses	(38,200)	279,500
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>(78,200)</b>	<b>239,500</b>

Background

The Honor Guard account funds three-member rifle squads for veteran funerals which is a supplemental benefit to the federally required presentation of the flag and playing of "taps."

The Veterans' Service Bonus program was established for National Guard members called to active service on or after September 11, 2001. The bonus is \$50 for each month of active service, up to a maximum of \$1,200 for combat service, or \$500 for non-combat service for each member who meets the eligibility qualifications.

Governor

Reduce funding of \$40,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to the honor guards account and reduce funding of \$38,200 in FY 26 and increase funding of \$279,500 in FY 27 to the Veteran's Service Bonuses account to reflect anticipated costs.

Account	Governor Recommended	
	FY 26	FY 27

### Provide Funding for the Putnam Readiness Center Operating Costs

Other Expenses	85,000	85,000
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>85,000</b>

#### Background

The Putnam Readiness Center will be home to the Connecticut Army National Guard's 643rd Military Police Company which currently resides at the Readiness Center in Westbrook, which was constructed in the 1950s and does not meet current anti-terrorism and force protection standards. The 39,000 square foot facility will provide state-of-the-art training, an assembly hall, equipment storage, parking lots and will be the first National Guard facility in Windham County. Construction of the Putnam Readiness Center began in FY 19 and is expected to be completed in FY 26.

#### Governor

Provide funding of \$85,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to support the operating costs of the Putnam Readiness Center.

### Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended	
	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - GF	6,420,298	6,420,298
Current Services	153,017	470,717
<b>Total Recommended - GF</b>	<b>6,573,315</b>	<b>6,891,015</b>