

Veterans and Defense Affairs

Adopted Amendments				
(\$ in millions)				
	FY 2017 Adopted		FY 2018 Adopted	
	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>
2016-18 Current Budget (Chapter 780, 2016 Session)	\$18.8	\$61.0	\$20.6	\$61.0
Increases	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.1
Decreases	<u>(0.1)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>	<u>(1.0)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>
\$ Net Change	(0.1)	0.0	0.5	0.1
Chapter 836 (HB 1500, as Adopted)	\$18.7	\$61.0	\$21.1	\$61.1
% Change	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%	0.1%
FTEs	165.00	602.00	206.00	602.00
# Change	1.00	0.00	34.00	0.00

- **Department of Veterans Services**

- *October 2016 Savings.* Includes reductions totaling \$144,057 GF the first year to reflect the budget reductions incorporated in the Governor’s October 2016 savings plan.
- *Delay Hiring of New Administrator.* Includes a reduction of \$133,333 GF and one position the second year by delaying until FY 2019 the hiring of an administrator for the new veterans care center.
- *Reorganization of Virginia Veteran and Family Support (VVFS) Program.* Adds \$610,128 GF and 34 positions the second year to reorganize the VVFS program (formerly known as the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program), which coordinates mental health and rehabilitative services for veterans, guardsmen and reservists not active in federal service, and their families. Instead of using contract staff provided by local Community Services Boards (CSBs), the department will use its own employees. This is intended to provide a clear chain of command, a more standardized approach, and better accountability for results.

- A projected FY 2017 balance of about \$86,000 will be used to offset the FY 2018 cost of the reorganization.
- ***Conversion of Wage Position.*** Increases the maximum employment level for the agency by 1.0 FTE (but with no additional funding) to convert a part-time position to full-time status at the benefits field office located at the McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center in Richmond. This part-time position will become a full-time position to reflect increased workload in that office.
- ***Veterans Services Foundation.*** Establishes this existing foundation as a separate entity in the budget under the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, pursuant to Chapters 622 and 505 of the 2017 Acts of Assembly (HB 2148/SB 1075). The amendment transfers \$115,000 GF and one position the second year from the Department of Veterans Services to the foundation as a separate budget entity.
- ***Nongeneral Fund Appropriations.*** Adds \$60,000 NGF the second year to reflect increased private donations for veterans cemeteries and care centers.