

Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security

Proposed Adjustments as Introduced (\$ in millions)				
	FY 2013 Proposed		FY 2014 Proposed	
	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>
2012-14 Base Budget, Ch. 890	\$9.0	\$42.2	\$9.0	\$42.2
Proposed increases	0.7	3.2	0.7	4.1
Proposed decreases	<u>(0.1)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>	<u>(0.1)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>
\$ Net Change	0.6	3.2	0.7	4.1
HB/SB 30, as Introduced	\$9.6	\$45.3	\$9.7	\$46.2
% Change	6.5%	7.5%	7.4%	9.6%
FTEs	116.00	565.00	116.00	565.00
# Change	4.00	51.00	4.00	51.00

- **Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security**

- *Federal Grant Funding.* Provides \$116,000 NGF each year from a federal grant to support wage positions that will assist employees displaced by the disestablishment of the Joint Forces Command in Hampton Roads. The grant is administered by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

- **Department of Veterans Services**

- *Budget Reduction Plans.* Includes a series of budget reductions totaling \$139,804 GF each year, including elimination of the county veterans service officer liaison program, delayed replacement of equipment, elimination of a special projects coordinator wage position, and reductions in printing and public relations costs at the Virginia War Memorial.
- *Additional Claims Agents.* Provides \$127,068 GF each year and two positions to increase the number of claims filed on behalf of Virginia veterans.
- *Wounded Warrior Program.* Transfers one position to oversee the Virginia Veterans Corps, funded by a federal AmeriCorps grant. The grant provides stipends to 20 volunteer “Navigators,” who work in Wounded Warrior partner agencies to assist service members, veterans, Guardsmen and Reservists, and their families, in accessing mental health and rehabilitative services.

- ***Moving Veterans from Medicaid to VA Benefits.*** Includes \$128,068 GF each year to fill 2 vacant positions to partner with the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to identify Virginia veterans receiving Medicaid benefits. The agency will then work with these veterans to determine whether they are eligible for disability and compensation benefits and medical care through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. A companion amendment in DMAS directs that agency to report on the feasibility and potential for savings from this initiative, with a report by November 1, 2012.
- ***Homeless Veterans.*** Includes \$197,018 GF each year and two positions for the Virginia Homeless Veterans Initiative. The two coordinators will build local coalitions to provide homeless veterans with access to services, including housing vouchers, employment support and social services.
- ***Compliance Surveys.*** Transfers two unfunded positions between service areas to perform federally-mandated compliance surveys under the Post-9/11 GI Bill Improvement Act. Current federal funds are sufficient to pay for the additional positions, which will conduct audits of veterans education and financial aid records at all active institutions of higher education in Virginia. The purpose of the audits is to verify enrollment data, award actions, and previous payments to ensure that payments made to eligible veterans are consistent with federal Veterans Administration regulations.
- ***Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center.*** Adds \$2.7 million NGF the first year, \$3.6 million NGF the second year, and 51 FTE positions each year to operate the new 40-bed addition to the Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond. Construction on the new addition is expected to begin in the early fall of 2012.
- ***Maintenance Reserve.*** Includes \$461,539 NGF the second year for maintenance reserve projects.