

Senate Subcommittee Report

Agency: Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Office

Bill No. SB 514 **Bill Sec.** 56

Analyst: Pratt

Budget Analysis Vol. II, p. 1103

GBR Vol. II, p. 292

Expenditure Summary	Agency Request FY 2025	Governor Recommendation FY 2025	Senate Subcommittee Adjustments
Operating Expenditures:			
State General Fund	\$ 14,641,700	\$ 14,469,950	\$ 0
Federal Funds	13,165,160	13,165,160	0
Other Funds	5,866,786	5,866,786	0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<u>\$ 33,673,646</u>	<u>\$ 33,501,896</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Capital Improvements:			
State General Fund	\$ 201,980	\$ 201,980	\$ 0
Federal Funds	89,911	89,911	0
Other Funds	2,983,054	3,583,054	0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<u>\$ 3,274,945</u>	<u>\$ 3,874,945</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>\$ 36,948,591</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 37,376,841</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>
 FTE positions	 376.0	 376.0	 0.0

Agency Request

The **agency** requests \$36.9 million, including \$14.8 million SGF, in expenditures and 376.0 FTE positions for FY 2025. This is an all funds decrease of \$17.6 million, or 32.3 percent, below the FY 2024 revised estimate. Included within this is an SGF decrease of \$631,397, or 4.1 percent, and an SIBF decrease of \$18.0 million, or 85.8 percent, below the FY 2024 revised estimate.

The decrease is primarily due to the agency not requesting a continuation in funding for the construction of the new Northeast Kansas Veterans' Home for FY 2025. The 2023 Legislature's appropriation of \$17.2 million SIBF for the construction of the new home was a one-time expenditure in FY 2024. (*Note:* The \$17.2 million SIBF may be carried over into FY 2025 depending on whether the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs approves the agency's application to construct a new home, and provides the 65.0 percent federal match requirement.)

The decrease is partially offset by the following three enhancement requests for FY 2025:

- The request includes **\$156,792 SGF to support OITS-managed Office 365 services for FY 2025**. OITS-managed services will allow the entire agency, including both the Kansas Veterans' Home and the Kansas Soldiers' Home, to be on the same domain and to comply with the federal requirement that servers have off-site storage capacity.

- The request includes **\$150,000 SGF for the Veterans Claims Assistance Program (VCAP) Grant for FY 2025**. The agency notes that the enactment of the federal Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act in FY 2023 has led to an increase in the number of veterans in Kansas who seek assistance from veteran service representatives in filing claims for benefits. The VCAP Grant is awarded annually to veteran service organizations that contract with the agency to train veteran service representatives on the benefits available to veterans. (Note: The 2023 Legislature appropriated \$850,000 SGF for the VCAP Grant in FY 2023 and for FY 2024. The agency requests an increase of \$150,000 SGF for the VCAP Grant, for a total of \$1.0 million in assistance to veteran service organizations, for FY 2025.)
- The request includes **\$461,000 SGF to fund the salaries and wages of four leadership positions within the agency for FY 2025**. Specifically, the agency requests funding for the following positions: Procurement Officer (\$91,000), Director of the Kansas Veterans' Homes (\$162,500), Operations Officer of the Kansas Soldiers' Home (\$104,000), and Operations Officer of the Kansas Veterans' Home (\$104,000). (Note: Should the new Northeast Kansas Veterans' Home be built, the agency anticipates that it will not have enough personnel to properly manage all three homes.)

Governor's Recommendation

The **Governor** recommends a budget of \$37.4 million, including \$14.7 million SGF, in expenditures and 376.0 FTE positions for FY 2025. This is an all funds increase of \$428,250, or 1.2 percent. Included within this is an SGF decrease of \$171,750, or 1.2 percent, below the FY 2025 agency request, as well as an SIBF increase of \$600,000, or 20.1 percent, above the agency's request for FY 2025.

The SGF decrease is due to the Governor recommending partial adoption of the agency's enhancement request to fund four leadership positions. Specifically, the Governor does *not* recommend funding the positions of Operations Officer of the Kansas Soldiers' Home (\$104,000) or Operations Officer of the Kansas Veterans' Home (\$104,000).

In addition to the agency's other enhancement requests, **the Governor recommends \$36,250 SGF for direct care workers at the Kansas Soldiers' Home and the Kansas Veterans' Home to use as an allowance to buy shoes for FY 2025**. The Governor further recommends **\$600,000 SIBF for the demolition of the Junior Officers Quarters and Walt Hall at the Kansas Soldiers' Home on Fort Dodge for FY 2025**. (Note: A structural analysis is being conducted on the Junior Officers Quarters. The agency states that neither building serves an express purpose for the agency, and that both structures are in such a state of disrepair that they are closed off from public access.)

Joint Committee on State Building Construction Recommendation

The **Joint Committee** concurs with the Governor's recommendation for FY 2025.

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare Recommendation

The **Committee** concurs with the Governor's recommendation for FY 2025.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means Recommendation

The **Committee** concurs with the Committee's recommendation for FY 2025.

Senate Committee of the Whole Recommendation (Sub. for SB 514)

The **Committee of the Whole** concurs with the Committee's recommendation for FY 2025.

House Budget Committee Report

Agency: Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Office **Bill No.** HB 2802 **Bill Sec.** 56

Analyst: Pratt **Budget Analysis Vol. II,** p. 1103 **GBR Vol. II,** p. 292

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The decrease is primarily due to the agency not requesting a continuation in funding for the construction of the new Northeast Kansas Veterans' Home for FY 2025. The 2023 Legislature's

appropriation of \$17.2 million SIBF for the construction of the new home was a one-time expenditure in FY 2024. (Note: The \$17.2 million SIBF may be carried over into FY 2025 depending on whether the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs approves the agency's application to construct a new home, and provides the 65.0 percent federal match requirement.)

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an express purpose for the agency, and that both structures are in such a state of disrepair that they are closed off from public access.)

Joint Committee on State Building Construction Recommendation

The **Joint Committee** concurs with the Governor's recommendation for FY 2025.

House Budget Committee Recommendation

The **Budget Committee** concurs with the Governor's recommendation for FY 2025.

House Committee on Appropriations Recommendation

The Committee concurs with the Budget Committee's recommendation for FY 2025.

House Committee of the Whole Recommendation (Sub. for HB 2273)

The Committee of the Whole concurs with the Committee's recommendation for FY 2025.

Conference Committee Recommendation (SB 28)

The **Conference Committee** concurs with the Governor's recommendation for FY 2025 with the following adjustment:

1. Add language providing that expenditures may be made to preserve or stabilize the Junior Officers Quarters and Walt Hall on Fort Dodge for FY 2025, and that no expenditures be made to demolish or prepare for demolition the Junior Officers Quarters or Walt Hall for FY 2025.

Omnibus Action (HB 2551)

No action taken for FY 2025.

State Finance Council

1. Add \$1,339,819, including \$673,277 SGF, for a salary adjustment for most state employees based on the Department of Administration Market Survey and a 5.0 percent salary adjustment for employees with job classifications that are not included in the Market Survey for FY 2025. This adjustment includes increasing minimum pay to \$15.03 per hour.

	Governor's Recommendation FY 2025	Legislative Action Mega Bill	Legislative Approved FY 2025	Legislative Action Omnibus Bill	Final Legislative Approved FY 2025
All Funds					
State Operations	\$ 32,875,001	\$ 1,339,819	\$ 34,214,820	\$ 0	\$ 34,214,820
Aid to Local Units	0	0	0	0	0
Other Assistance	1,005,417	0	1,005,417	0	1,005,417
<i>Subtotal - Operations</i>	<u>\$ 33,880,418</u>	<u>\$ 1,339,819</u>	<u>\$ 35,220,237</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 35,220,237</u>
Capital Improvements	3,496,423	0	3,496,423	0	3,496,423
TOTAL	<u>\$ 37,376,841</u>	<u>\$ 1,339,819</u>	<u>\$ 38,716,660</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 38,716,660</u>

State General Fund

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State Operations	\$ 13,469,950	\$ 673,277	\$ 14,143,227	\$ 0	\$ 14,143,227
Aid to Local Units	0	0	0	0	0
Other Assistance	1,000,000	0	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
<i>Subtotal - Operating</i>	<u>\$ 14,469,950</u>	<u>\$ 673,277</u>	<u>\$ 15,143,227</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 15,143,227</u>
Capital Improvements	201,980	0	201,980	0	201,980
TOTAL	<u>\$ 14,671,930</u>	<u>\$ 673,277</u>	<u>\$ 15,345,207</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 15,345,207</u>

FTE Positions	376.0	0.0	376.0	0.0	376.0
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