



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5653

Introduced 2/19/2026, by Rep. Robyn Gabel

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

Makes appropriations for the ordinary and contingent expenses of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, as follows:

General Funds	\$123,805,089
Other State Funds	\$131,666,257
Federal Funds	<u>\$2,691,400</u>
Total	\$258,162,746

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1 AN ACT concerning appropriations.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 ARTICLE 1

5 Section 5. The following named amounts, or so much thereof
6 as may be necessary, respectively, for the objects and
7 purposes hereinafter named, are appropriated from the General
8 Revenue Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs:

9 CENTRAL OFFICE

10	For Personal Services.....	8,116,900
11	For State Contributions to Social	
12	Security.....	620,900
13	For Operational Expenses of Central Office,	
14	including prior years' costs	3,697,600
15	For Expenses Related to the Security and Safety	
16	Enhancements at Illinois Veterans Homes	1,050,000
17	For Expenses Related to the Agency's Diversity, Equity,	
18	Inclusion, and Accessibility Initiatives	<u>300,000</u>
19	Total	\$13,785,400

20 Section 10. The sum of \$2,000,000, or so much thereof as
21 may be necessary, is appropriated from the State Facility
22 Repair and Maintenance Fund to the Department of Veterans

1 Affairs for repairs, maintenance, and other permanent
2 improvements.

3 Section 15. The sum of \$796,200, or so much thereof as may
4 be necessary, is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to
5 the Department of Veterans Affairs for all costs associated
6 with the Veterans Accountability Unit.

7 Section 20. The following named amounts, or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary, are appropriated from the General
9 Revenue Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the
10 objects and purposes and in the amounts set forth as follows:

11 GRANTS-IN-AID

12	For Warrior Assistance Program.....	150,000
13	For Bonus Payments to War Veterans	
14	and Peacetime Crisis Survivors	198,000
15	For Providing Educational Opportunities for	
16	Children of Certain Veterans, as provided	
17	by law, including Prior Years' Claims	500,000
18	For Cartage and Erection of Veterans' Headstones,	
19	including Prior Years' Claims	<u>425,000</u>
20	Total	\$1,273,000

21 Section 25. The sum of \$3,500,000, or so much thereof as
22 may be necessary, is appropriated from the General Revenue
23 Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the payment of

1 scholarships to students who are dependents of Illinois
2 resident military personnel declared to be prisoners of war,
3 missing in action, killed or permanently disabled, as provided
4 by law.

5 Section 30. The amount of \$2,000,000, or so much thereof
6 as may be necessary, is appropriated from the Illinois
7 Veterans Assistance Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs
8 for making grants, funding additional services, or conducting
9 additional research projects relating to veterans' post
10 traumatic stress disorder; veterans' homelessness; the health
11 insurance cost of veterans; veterans' disability benefits,
12 including but not limited to, disability benefits provided by
13 veterans service organizations and veterans assistance
14 commissions or centers; and the long-term care of veterans.

15 Section 35. The amount of \$340,357, or so much thereof as
16 may be necessary and remains unexpended at the close of
17 business on June 30, 2026, from an appropriation heretofore
18 made for such purpose in Article 68, Section 35 of Public Act
19 104-0003, as amended, is reappropriated from the Illinois
20 Veterans Assistance Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs
21 for making grants, funding additional services, or conducting
22 additional research projects relating to veterans' post
23 traumatic stress disorder; veterans' homelessness; the health
24 insurance cost of veterans; veterans' disability benefits,

1 including but not limited to, disability benefits provided by
 2 veterans service organizations and veterans assistance
 3 commissions or centers; and the long-term care of veterans.

4 Section 40. The following named amount, or so much thereof
 5 as may be necessary, is appropriated from the Illinois
 6 Affordable Housing Trust Fund to the Department of Veterans
 7 Affairs for the object and purpose and in the amount set forth
 8 as follows:

9 For Specially Adapted Housing for Veterans.....240,000

10 Section 45. The amount of \$250,000, or so much thereof as
 11 may be necessary, is appropriated from the Illinois Military
 12 Family Relief Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for
 13 the payment of benefits authorized under the Survivors
 14 Compensation Act.

15 Section 50. The following named amounts, or so much
 16 thereof as may be necessary, respectively, are appropriated to
 17 the Department of Veterans Affairs for objects and purposes
 18 hereinafter named:

19 VETERANS FIELD SERVICES

20 Payable from the General Revenue Fund:

21 For Personal Services..... 6,317,200

22 For State Contributions to

23 Social Security..... 483,300

1 For Operational Expenses of Veterans Field
 2 Services, including prior years' costs 2,201,900
 3 Total \$9,002,400

4 Section 55. The following named amounts, or so much
 5 thereof as may be necessary, respectively, are appropriated to
 6 the Department of Veterans Affairs for the objects and
 7 purposes hereinafter named:

8 ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME AT ANNA

9 Payable from General Revenue Fund:

10 For Personal Services..... 5,375,000
 11 For State Contributions to
 12 Social Security..... 411,200
 13 For Operational Expenses of Anna Veterans
 14 Home, including prior years' costs 995,200
 15 Total \$6,781,400

16 Payable from Anna Veterans Home Fund:

17 For Personal Services..... 1,719,200
 18 For State Contributions to the State
 19 Employees' Retirement System..... 747,100
 20 For State Contributions to
 21 Social Security..... 131,600
 22 For Operational Expenses of Anna Veterans
 23 Home, including prior years' costs 4,709,300
 24 For Permanent Improvements..... 50,000
 25 For Refunds..... 30,000

1 Section 65. The following named amounts, or so much
 2 thereof as may be necessary, respectively, are appropriated to
 3 the Department of Veterans Affairs for the objects and
 4 purposes hereinafter named:

5 ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME AT LASALLE

6 Payable from General Revenue Fund:

7	For Personal Services.....	10,093,900
8	For State Contributions to Social Security.....	772,200
9	For Operational Expenses of LaSalle Veterans	
10	Home, including prior years' costs	<u>1,503,200</u>
11	Total	\$12,369,300

12 Payable from LaSalle Veterans Home Fund:

13	For Personal Services.....	10,088,300
14	For State Contributions to the State	
15	Employees' Retirement System.....	4,383,900
16	For State Contributions to	
17	Social Security.....	771,800
18	For Operational Expenses of LaSalle Veterans	
19	Home, including prior years' costs	5,059,300
20	For Permanent Improvements.....	250,000
21	For Refunds.....	<u>30,800</u>
22	Total	\$20,584,100

23 Section 70. The following named amounts, or so much
 24 thereof as may be necessary, respectively, are appropriated to

1 the Department of Veterans Affairs for the objects and
2 purposes hereinafter named:

3 ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME AT MANTENO

4 Payable from General Revenue Fund:

5	For Personal Services.....	22,353,400
6	For State Contributions to	
7	Social Security.....	1,710,100
8	For Operational Expenses of Manteno Veterans	
9	Home, including prior years' costs	<u>5,580,800</u>
10	Total	\$29,644,300

11 Payable from Manteno Veterans Home Fund:

12	For Personal Services.....	15,484,700
13	For Member Compensation.....	5,000
14	For State Contributions to the State	
15	Employees' Retirement System.....	6,728,900
16	For State Contributions to	
17	Social Security.....	1,184,600
18	For Operational Expenses of Manteno Veterans	
19	Home, including prior years' costs	9,944,900
20	For Permanent Improvements.....	500,000
21	For Refunds.....	<u>100,000</u>
22	Total	\$33,948,100

23 Section 75. The following named amounts, or so much
24 thereof as may be necessary, respectively, are appropriated to
25 the Department of Veterans Affairs for costs associated with

1 the operation of a program for homeless veterans at the
2 Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno:

3	Payable from General Revenue Fund.....	968,800
4	Payable from the Manteno	
5	Veterans Home Fund.....	<u>201,500</u>
6	Total	\$1,170,300

7 Section 80. The following named amount, or so much thereof
8 as may be necessary, respectively, are appropriated to the
9 Department of Veterans Affairs for the objects and purposes
10 hereinafter named:

11 ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME AT CHICAGO

12	Payable from General Revenue Fund:	
13	For Operational Expenses of Chicago Veterans	
14	Home, including prior years' costs	<u>11,731,900</u>
15	Total	\$11,731,900

16	Payable from the Illinois Veterans' Homes Fund:	
17	For Operational Expenses of Chicago Veterans	
18	Home, including prior years' costs	13,591,300
19	For Permanent Improvements.....	<u>300,000</u>
20	Total	\$13,891,300

21 Section 85. The following named amount, or so much thereof
22 as may be necessary, respectively, are appropriated to the
23 Department of Veterans Affairs for the objects and purposes
24 hereinafter named:

STATE APPROVING AGENCY

Payable from GI Education Fund:

For Operational Expenses of the State Approving

Agency, including prior years' costs 2,691,400

Total \$2,691,400

Section 90. The amount of \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the Folds of Honor Foundation Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for grants to aid in providing educational scholarships to military families.

Section 95. The sum of \$936,289, or so much thereof as may be necessary and remains unexpended at the close of business on June 30, 2026, from a reappropriation heretofore made for such purpose in Article 68, Section 90 of Public Act 104-0003, as amended, is reappropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for costs associated with dental care for veterans in the five state-run veterans homes.

Section 100. No contract shall be entered into or obligation incurred or any expenditure made from any appropriation herein made in Section 10 of this Article until after the purpose and amounts have been approved in writing by the Governor.

Section 999. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,

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