

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: S1/29/15  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 147

By: Joint Budget Committee

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES  
AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30,  
2016; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS'  
AFFAIRS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2015-2016  
FISCAL YEAR.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
Department of Veterans' Affairs for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the following  
maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2015-2016
(1)	U008U	ADVA DIRECTOR	1	\$99,602
(2)	G039N	ADVA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	1	GRADE N905
(3)	A012N	ADVA CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER	1	GRADE N903
(4)	L026N	STATE VETERANS HOME ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE N903
(5)	G254C	ADVA CLAIMS & APPEALS DIVISION MGR	1	GRADE C124
(6)	A031C	ASSISTANT CONTROLLER	1	GRADE C124
(7)	L019C	REGISTERED NURSE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE C123



(8)	L027C	REGISTERED NURSE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C122
(9)	M009C	LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER	1	GRADE C121
(10)	R014C	PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE C121
(11)	L032C	REGISTERED NURSE - HOSPITAL	8	GRADE C121
(12)	G252C	VETERANS SERVICE PROGRAM MANAGER	3	GRADE C120
(13)	R024C	ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE C118
(14)	C010C	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE C118
(15)	G253C	VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER	9	GRADE C118
(16)	G237C	VETERANS CEMETERY MANAGER	1	GRADE C117
(17)	P027C	PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C116
(18)	C037C	ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	GRADE C115
(19)	A091C	FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST	5	GRADE C115
(20)	S033C	MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	3	GRADE C115
(21)	V018C	WAREHOUSE MANAGER	1	GRADE C114
(22)	L069C	LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE	17	GRADE C113
(23)	S046C	MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	4	GRADE C113
(24)	T072C	SECURITY OFFICER SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C113
(25)	C056C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	5	GRADE C112
(26)	M076C	RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY LEADER II	1	GRADE C111
(27)	T084C	PUBLIC SAFETY SECURITY OFFICER	4	GRADE C110
(28)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	2	GRADE C109
(29)	L082C	CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT	61	GRADE C109
(30)	S060C	HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	4	GRADE C109
(31)	M082C	RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY LEADER I	1	GRADE C109
(32)	V027C	INVENTORY CONTROL TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE C108
(33)	S084C	INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C104
(34)	S087C	INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES ASSISTANT	<u>11</u>	GRADE C103
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	158	

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs - State Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the following:

ITEM

FISCAL YEAR

<u>NO.</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,170,393
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	474,445
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	131,775
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,750
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(04) AID TO COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICES	375,000
(05) CONTINGENCY	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$2,407,363</u>

SECTION 3. EXTRA HELP - VETERANS' HOME - FAYETTEVILLE. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Veterans' Affairs - Veterans' Home - Fayetteville for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: seven (7) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - VETERANS' HOME - FAYETTEVILLE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs - Veterans' Home - Fayetteville for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the following:

<u>ITEM NO.</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,349,062
(02) EXTRA HELP	40,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,557,416
(04) OVERTIME	40,000

(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	2,627,477
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,885
(C) PROF. FEES	355,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	30,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	475,000
(07) CONTINGENCY	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$8,729,840</u></u>

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - VETERANS' CEMETERIES - STATE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs - Veterans' Cemeteries - State for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$284,802
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	132,139
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	135,070
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	3,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$555,011</u></u>

SECTION 6. EXTRA HELP - VETERANS' CEMETERIES - CASH. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Veterans' Affairs - Veterans' Cemeteries - Cash for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: four (4) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - VETERANS' CEMETERIES - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs - Veterans' Cemeteries - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$161,596
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	71,579
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	135,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	215,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(04) CONTINGENCY	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$838,175</u></u>

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to be payable from the Military Funeral Honors Fund, for operating expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs - Military Funeral Honors Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016
(01) MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS EXPENSES	<u><u>\$100,000</u></u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - NLR CEMETERY - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for construction, maintenance and operating expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs - NLR Cemetery - Federal for the fiscal year ending June

30, 2016, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$408,494
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	41,039
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) CONSTRUCTION	<u>689,529</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,139,062</u></u>

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - VETERANS' HOME TREASURY - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs - Veterans' Home Treasury - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$585,727
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$585,727</u></u>

SECTION 11. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRAINING CONFERENCES. The funds appropriated herein for Aid to County Veterans' Service Offices may also be used by the Department of Veterans' Affairs to pay expenses of County Veterans' Service Officers for attending regional or statewide training conferences approved by the Department of Veterans'

Affairs and designed to provide better trained and qualified Veterans' Service Officers in the various counties. Any such expenses paid by the Department of Veterans' Affairs from funds appropriated herein shall be on the same reimbursement basis as the reimbursement of state employees for expenses incurred in attending their official business. Provided, no County Veterans' Service Officer shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in attending more than two (2) approved conferences per year.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2014~~ 2015 through June 30, ~~2015~~ 2016.

SECTION 12. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. LIABILITY INSURANCE APPROPRIATION RESTRICTION. In no event shall the Department of Veterans' Affairs expend or transfer any appropriation or funds for the purchase of malpractice liability insurance for the benefit of a non-governmental entity.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2014~~ 2015 through June 30, ~~2015~~ 2016.

SECTION 13. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. USE OF ADVA CONTINGENCY POSITION POOL AND CONTINGENCY APPROPRIATION. In the event additional appropriation becomes necessary that is not authorized or contemplated in Section 2, Section 4 and Section 7 of this Act and growth in the State Veterans' Home at Fayetteville's resident census and/or growth in the number of interments at the State Veterans' Cemetery at North Little Rock makes it necessary for the Arkansas Department of Veterans' Affairs to request additional positions, regular salaries and personal services matching appropriation in order to carry out the objectives of the Agency, the ADVA Contingency Position Pool and Contingency Appropriation authorized herein may be used for regular salaries and personal services matching line items. The Arkansas Department of Veterans' Affairs Contingency Appropriation authorized herein shall be funded primarily with cash funds of the State Veterans' Home at Fayetteville and of the State Veterans' Cemetery at North Little Rock. Each entity's cash funds shall be utilized in support of its own

business operations and shall not be co-mingled. In addition, general revenue funding in support of the ADVA Contingency Position Pool shall be limited to \$250,000 per year.

Use of the ADVA Contingency Position Pool and Contingency Appropriation authorized in this Act shall be conditioned upon approval by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and upon certification by the Director of the Arkansas Department of Veterans' Affairs that funds are available to support the contingency positions requested and upon prior review by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee.

The General Assembly has determined that the Arkansas State Veterans' Home at Fayetteville and the Arkansas State Veterans' Cemetery at North Little Rock may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Arkansas Department of Veterans' Affairs under this Section.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM ANNUAL</u>
<u>NO.</u>	<u>CODE TITLE</u>	<u>NO. OF</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
		<u>EMPLOYEES</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>
			<u>2015-2016</u>
<u>(1)</u>	<u>C087C ADMIN SPECIALIST I</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C106</u>
<u>(2)</u>	<u>S046C MAINT TECHNICIAN</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C113</u>
<u>(3)</u>	<u>S050C MAINT SPECIALIST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C112</u>
<u>(4)</u>	<u>S056C MAINT ASSISTANT</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>GRADE C108</u>
<u>(5)</u>	<u>L009C NURSE MANAGER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C125</u>
<u>(6)</u>	<u>L019C REG NURSE COORD</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C123</u>
<u>(7)</u>	<u>D071C COMP SUPPORT ANALYST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C117</u>
<u>(8)</u>	<u>L069C LICENSED PRACT NURSE</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C113</u>
<u>(9)</u>	<u>M065C RECR ACTIVITY LEADER SVR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE C114</u>
<u>(10)</u>	<u>L082C CERTIFIED NURSING ASSIST</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>GRADE C109</u>
<u>(11)</u>	<u>S087C INSTITUTIONAL SERV ASST</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>GRADE C109</u>

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

SECTION 14. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary

Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

SECTION 15. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

SECTION 16. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2015 is essential to the operation of the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2015 could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2015.

*/s/ Joint Budget Committee*