

May 5, 2011

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #779

Transfer Geriatric Program Budget and Position Authority (DVA -- Veterans Homes)

[LFB 2011-13 Budget Summary: Page 525, #9]

CURRENT LAW

Prior to 2007, the former medical director at the Veterans Home at King conducted a geriatric research program with four 0.5 nurse positions. The program was funded with revenue from program receipts in an appropriation created for this purpose, separate from the agency's general institutional operations appropriations for the DVA facilities. After research ended in 2007, when the former medical director retired, the four 0.5 nurse positions were reassigned to provide nursing care for units at King, but have been funded under the geriatric program receipts appropriation.

Funding in this appropriation is \$199,900 PR annually.

GOVERNOR

Transfer \$199,900 annually and 2.0 positions, beginning in 2011-12, from a program revenue (PR) appropriation that was created to fund DVA's geriatric evaluation, research and education program, to DVA's PR appropriation that supports its general institutional operations. The bill would retain the geriatric program's appropriation, but no funding would be budgeted for the program.

MODIFICATION

Repeal the geriatric program appropriation.

Explanation: As the geriatric program ended in 2007 and the bill would transfer all funding and position authority to the agency's general institutional operations appropriation, the current geriatric appropriation serves no purpose and should be repealed.

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