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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 78

01/22/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Veterans and Military Affairs Division

- 1.1A bill for an act
- 1.2relating to military veterans; appropriating money for veteran retreats.
- 1.3BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.4Section 1. APPROPRIATION; CAMP BLISS.
- 1.5Subdivision 1. Grant program; eligibility; reimbursement requirements. (a) The
- 1.6commissioner of veterans affairs shall issue a grant to Independent Lifestyles, Inc., for
- 1.7expenses related to retreats for eligible veterans and their family members at Camp Bliss
- 1.8in Walker.
- 1.9(b) The grant recipient may use grant money to:
- 1.10(1) provide therapy, transportation, and activities customized for eligible veterans and
- 1.11their family members; and
- 1.12(2) perform general maintenance of the camp.
- 1.13(c) The commissioner must reimburse the grant recipient at least \$850 for each eligible
- 1.14veteran or family member who the commissioner verifies attended the camp and received
- 1.15services from the grant recipient. The commissioner shall disburse money to the grant
- 1.16recipient for up to two visits per year to the camp for each eligible veteran or family member.
- 1.17Subd. 2. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the
- 1.18meanings given.
- 1.19(b) "Eligible veteran" means a person who is either:

- 2.1 (1) a former armed forces service member who has a DD-214 or other official document
- 2.2 from the official military personnel file of the veteran that describes the honorable service
- 2.3 of the veteran; or
- 2.4 (2) a current armed forces member, whether serving in the active or reserve component.
- 2.5 (c) "Family member" means an eligible veteran's spouse, domestic partner, or child.
- 2.6 Subd. 3. **Appropriation.** \$150,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$150,000 in fiscal year 2027
- 2.7 are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of veterans affairs for the grant
- 2.8 described in subdivision 1, paragraph (a). This amount shall be added to the agency's base.