



**2011 LEGISLATIVE REPORT**  
**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS, REVENUES, OR OTHER**  
**ACTUAL OR PROJECTED CARRYOVER MONEY**

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### **Legislative Charge**

2010 Minn. Law, Ch. 215, art. 6 sec. 5

### **REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**

By January 15, 2011, the commissioner shall report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over Veterans affairs policy and finance regarding any unexpended appropriations, revenues, or other actual or projected carryover money provided directly or indirectly through any provision in this article.

### **Estimated Cost of Preparing this Report (*as required by Minn. Stat. § 3.197*)**

Staff time:	\$26.00
<u>Copies</u>	<u>\$ 6.00</u>
TOTAL	\$32.00

## **Summary**

As with many state agencies, it is not uncommon for the Department of Veterans Affairs to recognize a carry forward each year because there are many different variables that come into play. For example within our Veterans Homes program, federal per diem usually changes when the federal government authorizes the annual rate of reimbursement per Veteran each October. Additionally, resident Veteran/nonveteran ratio changes regularly, as does the number of residents able to pay full or partial cost of care. Within the Veterans Services Program, the Support Our Troops account has been used to provide flood relief grants and also supplements the MN Service CORE program that assists veterans with family counseling, financial counseling, debt management, addition counseling, disability services and in-home counseling services.

Because MDVA has been entrusted with providing a safe place for the residents at our Veterans Homes, a small reserve balance must be available to cover unforeseen or catastrophic event(s) at any of the five state operated Homes, such as critical equipment failure repair or replacement; insurance premium deductible through Risk Management; or tort claims.

A large portion of these carry forward dollars are in dedicated funds and can only be spent on specific uses as defined by law and therefore cannot be considered as available for general use.

#### **VETERANS SERVICES PROGRAM**

- **General fund total carry forward \$749,963**
  - MN Ambulance Association's Military to Medic apprenticeship \$110,000
  - County Veterans Service Office grants \$13,505
  - MN Online LinkVet agreement \$17,832
  - Vacant positions filled
  - Remaining balance will cancel at the end of FY2011
- **Special revenue fund total carry forward \$1,390,150**
  - Cemetery Development & Maintenance \$349,162
  - State Approving Agency Program (federal dollars) \$372,639
  - Support Our Troops \$668,249
    - MN Service Core supplemental obligation \$200,000
    - State Soldiers Assistance supplemental obligation \$200,000
    - Flood relief grants as needed
    - Veterans programming
- **Gift account total carry forward of \$69,385**
  - Gifts are either designated to a specific purpose or at the discretion of the Commissioner for programs benefiting veterans.

#### **VETERANS HOME PROGRAM**

- **General fund total carry forward \$334,643**
  - Repair and betterment projects extending into FY2011.
- **Special revenue fund total carry forward \$3,390,453**
  - These funds can be redistributed within the Homes
  - Life/safety equipment \$250,000
  - Risk Management deductible \$500,000
  - Minneapolis Veterans Home adult day care operation \$113,000
  - Fergus Falls Veterans Home special care unit addition \$1,000,000
  - Commitment to FY12-13 Mpls adult day care and Fergus Falls special care unit unfunded mandate \$797,000
  - Workers compensation overage \$100,000
  - Medicare Consultant/Billing software program \$100,000
  - Emergency Preparedness Coordinator 1 year position \$100,000
  - Part D implementation \$108,000
  - Hastings mental health program \$173,000
- **Resident trust fund total carry forward \$351,563**
  - These funds belong to the residents – it is their personal money.
- **Gift fund total carry forward \$986,332**
  - Donors specify how these funds are to be expended. A designated contribution committee monitors how these funds are spent.

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