
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 26—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

(ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES)

PREFILED FEBRUARY 4, 2005

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to management and operation of veterans' homes. (BDR 37-271)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to veterans; requiring the Executive Director for Veterans' Services to establish and implement rules, policies and procedures for the management, maintenance and operation of veterans' homes; requiring the Executive Director to establish a schedule of rates to be charged for occupancy of rooms at veterans' homes; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law creates the Office of Veterans' Services, which is administered by the Executive Director. (NRS 417.020) As part of his duties, the Executive Director is required to maintain and operate the veterans' homes in Nevada. (NRS 417.147) With the advice of the administrators of those veterans' homes, the Executive Director may expend money from the Veterans' Home Account in the State General Fund, in part, for the operation of those veterans' homes. (NRS 417.145)

This bill requires the Executive Director to establish and implement rules, policies and procedures for the management, maintenance and operation of the veterans' homes in Nevada. The bill also requires the Executive Director, with the advice of the Nevada Veterans' Services Commission, to establish annually a schedule of rates to be charged for the occupancy of rooms at those veterans' homes. Money collected pursuant to that rate schedule must be deposited in the Veterans' Home Account.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 417.145 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 417.145 1. The Veterans' Home Account is hereby
3 established in the State General Fund.

4 2. Money received from:

5 (a) Payments *made* by the *United States* Department of
6 Veterans Affairs for veterans who receive care in a veterans' home;

7 (b) Other payments for medical care and services;

8 (c) Appropriations made by the Legislature for veterans' homes;

9 ~~and~~

10 (d) *Federal grants and other money received pursuant to*
11 *paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 417.147;*

12 (e) *Money collected pursuant to the schedule of rates*
13 *established pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 417.147 for*
14 *occupancy of rooms at veterans' homes; and*

15 (f) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, gifts of money
16 and proceeds derived from the sale of gifts of personal property for
17 the use of veterans' homes, if the use of such gifts has not been
18 restricted by the donor,

19 ➡ must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the
20 Veterans' Home Account.

21 3. Interest and income must not be computed on the money in
22 the Veterans' Home Account.

23 4. The Veterans' Home Account must be administered by the
24 Executive Director, with the advice of the administrators, and *except*
25 *as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS*
26 *417.147*, the money deposited in the Veterans' Home Account may
27 only be expended for:

28 (a) The *establishment, management, maintenance and*
29 *operation of veterans' homes;*

30 (b) A program or service related to a veterans' home;

31 (c) The solicitation of other sources of money to fund a
32 veterans' home; and

33 (d) The purpose of informing the public about issues concerning
34 the establishment and uses of a veterans' home.

35 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, gifts of
36 personal property for the use of veterans' homes:

37 (a) May be sold or exchanged if the sale or exchange is
38 approved by the State Board of Examiners; or

39 (b) May be used in kind if the gifts are not appropriate for
40 conversion to money.



6. All money in the Veterans' Home Account must be paid out on claims approved by the Executive Director as other claims against the State are paid.

7. The Gift Account for Veterans' Homes is hereby established in the State General Fund. Gifts of money or personal property which the donor has restricted to one or more uses at a veterans' home must be used only in the manner designated by the donor. Gifts of money which the donor has restricted to one or more uses at a veterans' home must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Gift Account for Veterans' Homes. The interest and income earned on the money in the Gift Account for Veterans' Homes, after deducting any applicable charges, must be credited to the Gift Account for Veterans' Homes. Any money remaining in the Gift Account for Veterans' Homes at the end of each fiscal year does not lapse to the State General Fund, but must be carried forward into the next fiscal year.

8. The Executive Director shall, on or before August 1 of each year, prepare and submit to the Interim Finance Committee a report detailing the expenditures made from the Gift Account for Veterans' Homes that are attributable to the money deposited in that account pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 482.3764.

Sec. 2. NRS 417.147 is hereby amended to read as follows:

417.147 1. The Executive Director shall:

(a) Appoint an administrator for each veterans' home in this State. Each administrator must be licensed as a nursing facility administrator pursuant to NRS 654.170.

(b) Take such other actions as are necessary for the **management**, maintenance and operation of veterans' homes in this State **H**, **including, without limitation, establishing and implementing rules, policies and procedures for such management, maintenance and operation.**

(c) Apply for federal grants and other sources of money available for establishing veterans' homes. ~~Federal grants and other money received pursuant to this paragraph must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Veterans' Home Account.~~ A federal grant must be used only as permitted by the terms of the grant.

2. **With the advice of the Nevada Veterans' Services Commission, the Executive Director shall, on or before July 1 of each calendar year, establish a schedule of rates to be charged for occupancy of rooms at each veterans' home in this State during the following fiscal year. In establishing such a schedule of rates, the Executive Director shall consider:**

(a) The projected cost to manage, maintain and operate the veterans' home during the following fiscal year;



1 ***(b) The projected cost to provide medical care to veterans who***
2 ***receive care in the veterans' home during the following fiscal***
3 ***year;***

4 ***(c) The money projected to be received as payments made by***
5 ***the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans who***
6 ***receive care in the veterans' home during the following fiscal***
7 ***year; and***

8 ***(d) The cost of skilled nursing care in the community in which***
9 ***the veterans' home is located.***

10 **3.** The first veterans' home that is established in this State must
11 be established at a location in southern Nevada determined to be
12 appropriate by the Interim Finance Committee. The Interim Finance
13 Committee shall give preference to a site that is zoned appropriately
14 for the establishment of a veterans' home, that affords minimum
15 costs of maintenance and that is located in an area where the
16 members of the families of the veterans can easily visit the veterans'
17 home. The site for the construction of the veterans' home in
18 southern Nevada must be:

19 (a) Located in reasonable proximity to:

20 (1) A public transportation system;

21 (2) Shopping centers; and

22 (3) A major hospital that has a center for the treatment of
23 trauma which is designated as a level II center by the Administrator
24 of the Health Division of the Department of Human Resources.

25 (b) Not less than 5 acres in area.

26 ~~13-1~~ **4.** If an additional veterans' home is authorized, it must be
27 established in northern Nevada.

28 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.

