



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRBs0289/1
ZDW:kjf

**SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,
TO SENATE BILL 668**

February 1, 2016 - Offered by Senator WANGGAARD.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 20.485 (1) (gd), 20.485 (1) (mn), 20.485 (1) (u), 20.485 (2) (b),
2 20.485 (2) (d), 20.485 (2) (e), 20.485 (2) (vy), 20.485 (2) (yg), 20.485 (3) (v), 20.485
3 (3) (w), 45.03 (13) (j), 45.03 (13) (k), 45.70 (1b) (b) and 45.70 (1m); **to renumber**
4 20.485 (1) (d), 20.485 (3) (sm), 45.51 (8), 45.51 (11) and 45.51 (12); **to renumber**
5 **and amend** 20.485 (1) (kg), 45.51 (6m), 45.51 (7), 45.51 (10) and 45.70 (1b) (a);
6 **to amend** 20.485 (1) (g), 20.485 (1) (gk), 20.485 (1) (h), 20.485 (1) (hm), 20.485
7 (1) (t), 20.485 (2) (a) (title), 20.485 (2) (rm), 20.485 (2) (rp), 20.485 (2) (z) (title),
8 20.485 (4) (g), 20.485 (4) (m), 20.485 (5) (mn) (title), 20.485 (5) (wd) (title), 25.36
9 (1), 25.37, 45.01 (9), 45.02 (2) (intro.), 45.03 (3) (a), 45.03 (5) (a) 1., 45.03 (5) (a)
10 2., 45.03 (5) (c) 1. a., 45.03 (5) (c) 1. b., 45.03 (5) (c) 1. c., 45.03 (5) (c) 3., 45.03
11 (5) (c) 4., 45.03 (12) (a), 45.03 (12) (b), 45.03 (15), 45.37 (4) (a), 45.37 (4) (b) 1.,
12 45.37 (4) (b) 2., 45.37 (6) (a) 2., 45.37 (6) (c) 2., 45.37 (7) (a) (intro.), 45.37 (7) (b),
13 45.37 (10) (a), 45.43 (title) and (1), 45.50 (4) (a), 45.51 (3) (b), 45.51 (3) (c) 1. d.,

1 45.51 (3) (c) 1m. c., 45.51 (3) (c) 2., 45.57 (1), 45.70 (2) (b), 45.82 (1) and 851.09;
2 **to repeal and recreate** 20.485 (1) (b) (title), 20.485 (1) (gk), 20.485 (2) (u)
3 (title), 20.485 (5) (c) (title) and 20.485 (5) (zm) (title); and **to create** 19.56 (3) (g)
4 of the statutes; **relating to:** powers of officers and employees of the Department
5 of Veterans Affairs, powers of the Board of Veterans Affairs, employment of
6 veterans regional coordinators and claims officers, and making an
7 appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This substitute amendment makes various changes to the laws governing veterans affairs, including changes to the powers of certain state public officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs, changes to the powers of the Board of Veterans Affairs, and changes regarding the maintenance of veterans homes.

This substitute amendment allows a state public official who is an officer or employee of DVA to solicit, receive, and retain on behalf of the state anything of value for the purpose of supporting veterans homes and members and veterans programs, benefits, and services.

The substitute amendment transfers most of the powers of the Board of Veterans Affairs to DVA. Under current law, the board has various powers, including creating policies and making determinations relating to the disposition of moneys, the making of loans, and the acquisition and conveyance of buildings and real property.

The substitute amendment establishes a task force to study and report on factors that may affect future operations of veterans benefits service organizations.

Finally, the substitute amendment makes various technical changes to laws governing veterans affairs, including repealing obsolete or outdated appropriations.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

8 **SECTION 1.** 19.56 (3) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

9 19.56 (3) (g) A state public official who is an officer or employee of the
10 department of veterans affairs may solicit, receive, and retain on behalf of the state

1 anything of value for the purpose of supporting veterans homes and members and
2 veterans programs, benefits, and services.

3 **SECTION 2.** 20.485 (1) (b) (title) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

4 20.485 (1) (b) (title) *Homes operation; general fund supplement.*

5 **SECTION 3.** 20.485 (1) (d) of the statutes is renumbered 20.485 (4) (a).

6 **SECTION 4.** 20.485 (1) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 20.485 (1) (g) *Home exchange.* The amounts in the schedule for the purchase
8 of the necessary materials, supplies and equipment for the operation of the home
9 exchange, and compensation for members' labor. All moneys received from the sale
10 of products authorized by s. ~~45.51(7)~~ 45.50 (12) shall be credited to this
11 appropriation.

12 **SECTION 5.** 20.485 (1) (gd) of the statutes is repealed.

13 **SECTION 6.** 20.485 (1) (gk) of the statutes, as affected by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55,
14 section 768k, is amended to read:

15 20.485 (1) (gk) *Institutional Homes operations.* The amounts in the schedule
16 for the care of the members of the Wisconsin veterans homes under s. 45.50, for the
17 payment of stipends under s. 45.50 (2m) (f), for the transfer of moneys to the
18 appropriation account under s. 20.435 (4) (ky) for payment of the state share of the
19 medical assistance costs related to the provision of stipends under s. 45.50 (2m) (f),
20 for the payment of assistance to indigent veterans under s. 45.43 to allow them to
21 reside at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove, for the transfer of moneys
22 to the appropriation accounts under ~~par. (kg) and par. (kj) and sub. (2) (ks)~~, and for
23 the payment of grants under s. 45.82. Not more than 1 percent of the moneys credited
24 to this appropriation account may be used for the payment of assistance to indigent
25 veterans under s. 45.43. All moneys received under par. (m) and s. ~~45.51(7)(b) and~~

1 ~~(8) 45.50 (12) (b) and (13)~~ and all moneys received for the care of members under
2 medical assistance, as defined in s. 49.43 (8), shall be credited to this appropriation
3 account.

4 **SECTION 7.** 20.485 (1) (gk) of the statutes, as affected by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55,
5 section 768kb, and 2015 Wisconsin Act (this act), is repealed and recreated to read:

6 20.485 (1) (gk) *Homes operations.* The amounts in the schedule for the care of
7 the members of the Wisconsin veterans homes under s. 45.50, for the payment of
8 stipends under s. 45.50 (2m) (f), for the transfer of moneys to the appropriation
9 account under s. 20.435 (4) (ky) for payment of the state share of the medical
10 assistance costs related to the provision of stipends under s. 45.50 (2m) (f), for the
11 payment of assistance to indigent veterans under s. 45.43 to allow them to reside at
12 the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove, for the transfer of moneys to the
13 appropriation account under sub. (2) (ks), and for the payment of grants under s.
14 45.82. Not more than 1 percent of the moneys credited to this appropriation account
15 may be used for the payment of assistance to indigent veterans under s. 45.43. All
16 moneys received under par. (m) and s. 45.50 (12) (b) and (13) and all moneys received
17 for the care of members under medical assistance, as defined in s. 49.43 (8), shall be
18 credited to this appropriation account.

19 **SECTION 8.** 20.485 (1) (h) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 20.485 (1) (h) *Gifts, grants, and bequests.* All moneys received under s. ~~45.51~~
21 ~~(10) 45.50 (14)~~ and ~~(11) (15)~~, or any moneys received by gifts, grants, or bequests, to
22 carry out the purposes of ss. 45.50 and 45.51.

23 **SECTION 9.** 20.485 (1) (hm) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 20.485 (1) (hm) *Gifts ~~and grants, grants, and bequests.~~* All moneys received
2 from gifts ~~and grants, grants, or bequests,~~ specifically for the purpose of s. 45.50 (2m)
3 (d), to carry out the purpose of s. 45.50 (2m) (d).

4 **SECTION 10.** 20.485 (1) (kg) of the statutes is renumbered 20.485 (2) (ks) and
5 amended to read:

6 20.485 (2) (ks) *Grants to counties.* The amounts in the schedule for the
7 payments of grants made under s. 45.82 (1) to (3). All moneys transferred from the
8 appropriation account under ~~par. sub. (1)~~ (gk) shall be credited to this appropriation
9 account.

10 **SECTION 11.** 20.485 (1) (mn) of the statutes is repealed.

11 **SECTION 12.** 20.485 (1) (t) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 20.485 (1) (t) *Veterans homes member accounts.* From the Wisconsin veterans
13 homes members fund, all moneys received under s. 25.37 to make payments as
14 provided under s. 45.51 (8), ~~(10), 45.50 (13), (14), and (11) (15).~~

15 **SECTION 13.** 20.485 (1) (u) of the statutes is repealed.

16 **SECTION 14.** 20.485 (2) (a) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 20.485 (2) (a) (title) *General ~~program operations; loans and aids fund~~*
18 *operations.*

19 **SECTION 15.** 20.485 (2) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

20 **SECTION 16.** 20.485 (2) (d) of the statutes is repealed.

21 **SECTION 17.** 20.485 (2) (e) of the statutes is repealed.

22 **SECTION 18.** 20.485 (2) (rm) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 20.485 (2) (rm) *Veterans assistance programs; fish and game vouchers housing*
24 *and recovery programs.* Biennially, the amounts in the schedule for general program
25 operations of the veterans ~~assistance program~~ housing and recovery programs under

1 s. 45.43, ~~for grants under s. 45.03 (13) (j)~~, and for reimbursements to the department
2 of natural resources under s. 29.1945 (2).

3 **SECTION 19.** 20.485 (2) (rp) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 20.485 (2) (rp) *Veterans ~~assistance program receipts~~ housing and recovery*
5 *programs fees*. All moneys received from fees under s. 45.43 (2) for the provision of
6 assistance housing and recovery programs to veterans under s. 45.43 (1).

7 **SECTION 20.** 20.485 (2) (u) (title) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to
8 read:

9 20.485 (2) (u) (title) *Veteran trust fund operations*.

10 **SECTION 21.** 20.485 (2) (vy) of the statutes is repealed.

11 **SECTION 22.** 20.485 (2) (yg) of the statutes is repealed.

12 **SECTION 23.** 20.485 (2) (z) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 20.485 (2) (z) (title) *Gifts, grants, and bequests*.

14 **SECTION 24.** 20.485 (3) (sm) of the statutes is renumbered 20.485 (2) (se).

15 **SECTION 25.** 20.485 (3) (v) of the statutes is repealed.

16 **SECTION 26.** 20.485 (3) (w) of the statutes is repealed.

17 **SECTION 27.** 20.485 (4) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 20.485 (4) (g) *Cemetery operations*. The amounts in the schedule for the care
19 and operation of the veterans memorial cemeteries under s. 45.61 other than those
20 costs provided under pars. (q) and (r). All moneys received under s. 45.61 (3) and from
21 the estate of decedents under s. 45.61 (5) shall be credited to this appropriation
22 account.

23 **SECTION 28.** 20.485 (4) (m) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 20.485 (4) (m) *Federal aid; cemetery operations and burials*. All moneys
25 received from the federal government for specific veterans programs other than for

1 the care of veterans at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King and veterans facilities,
2 for such purposes, and all moneys received from the federal government for the
3 operation of veterans memorial cemeteries under s. 45.61 as authorized by the
4 governor under s. 16.54, to be used for that purpose.

5 **SECTION 29.** 20.485 (5) (c) (title) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to
6 read:

7 20.485 (5) (c) (title) *Museum operations; general fund.*

8 **SECTION 30.** 20.485 (5) (mn) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 20.485 (5) (mn) (title) *Federal projects; museum acquisitions and operations.*

10 **SECTION 31.** 20.485 (5) (wd) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 20.485 (5) (wd) (title) *Operation of Wisconsin Veterans Museum operations.*

12 **SECTION 32.** 20.485 (5) (zm) (title) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to
13 read:

14 20.485 (5) (zm) (title) *Gifts, grants, and bequests.*

15 **SECTION 33.** 25.36 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, is
16 amended to read:

17 25.36 (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), all moneys appropriated or transferred
18 by law shall constitute the veterans trust fund which shall be used for the lending
19 of money to the mortgage loan repayment fund under s. 45.37 (5) (a) 12. and for the
20 veterans programs under ss. 20.485 (2) (m), (tm), (u), ~~(vy)~~, and (z), and (5) (mn), (v),
21 (vo), and (zm), 45.03 (19), 45.07, 45.20, 45.21, 45.40 (1m), 45.41, 45.42, 45.43, and
22 45.82 and administered by the department of veterans affairs, including all moneys
23 received from the federal government for the benefit of veterans or their dependents,
24 and for the veteran grant jobs pilot program under s. 38.31 administered by the
25 technical college system board; all moneys paid as interest on and repayment of loans

1 under the post-war rehabilitation fund; soldiers rehabilitation fund, veterans
2 housing funds as they existed prior to July 1, 1961; all moneys paid as interest on
3 and repayment of loans under this fund; all moneys paid as expenses for, interest on,
4 and repayment of veterans trust fund stabilization loans under s. 45.356, 1995 stats.;
5 all moneys paid as expenses for, interest on, and repayment of veterans personal
6 loans; the net proceeds from the sale of mortgaged properties related to veterans
7 personal loans; all mortgages issued with the proceeds of the 1981 veterans home
8 loan revenue bond issuance purchased with moneys in the veterans trust fund; all
9 moneys received from the state investment board under s. 45.42 (8) (b); all moneys
10 received from the veterans mortgage loan repayment fund under s. 45.37 (7) (a) and
11 (c); and all gifts of money received by the board of veterans affairs for the purposes
12 of this fund.

13 **SECTION 34.** 25.37 of the statutes is amended to read:

14 **25.37 Wisconsin veterans homes members fund.** There is established a
15 separate nonlapsible trust fund designated as the Wisconsin veterans homes
16 members fund. The fund shall consist of moneys belonging to persons residing in
17 Wisconsin veterans homes, that are paid to the homes, and that are transferred into
18 the fund by the department of veterans affairs under s. ~~45.51(8)~~ 45.50 (13).

19 **SECTION 35.** 45.01 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 45.01 (9) "Permanently and totally disabled veteran" means a person who is
21 receiving 100 percent disability compensation from the U.S. department of veterans
22 affairs under 38 USC ~~301 to 315, 331 to 337, and 350 to 362~~ 1110 to 1155, due to a
23 permanent and total service-connected disability.

24 **SECTION 36.** 45.02 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 45.02 (2) (intro.) Except as provided in sub. (3) and s. 45.51 (~~6m~~) (1m), to be
2 eligible for benefits under this chapter an applicant shall be a resident of and living
3 in this state at the time of making application or the veteran from whom the
4 applicant derives eligibility is deceased, and the veteran from whom eligibility is
5 derived meets one of the following conditions:

6 **SECTION 37.** 45.03 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 45.03 (3) (a) The council on veterans programs created under s. 15.497 shall
8 advise the ~~board and the~~ department on solutions and policy alternatives relating
9 to the problems of veterans.

10 **SECTION 38.** 45.03 (5) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

11 45.03 (5) (a) 1. “Existing building” in relation to any conveyance, lease, or
12 sublease made under par. (c) 1. means all detention, treatment, administrative,
13 recreational, infirmary, hospital, vocational, and academic buildings; all
14 dormitories and cottages; all storage facilities, heating plants, and sewage disposal
15 plants, and other buildings, structures, facilities, and permanent improvements that
16 in the judgment of the ~~board~~ department are needed or useful for the purposes of the
17 department, and all equipment for them and all improvements and additions to them
18 that were erected, constructed, or installed prior to the making of the conveyance,
19 lease, or sublease.

20 **SECTION 39.** 45.03 (5) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

21 45.03 (5) (a) 2. “New building” in relation to any conveyance, lease, or sublease
22 made under par. (c) 1. means all detention, treatment, administrative, recreational,
23 infirmary, hospital, vocational, and academic buildings; all dormitories and
24 cottages; all storage facilities, heating plants, and sewage disposal plants, and other
25 buildings, structures, facilities, and permanent improvements as in the judgment of

1 the ~~board~~ department are needed or useful for the purposes of the department, and
2 all equipment for them and all improvements and additions to them that are erected,
3 constructed, or installed after the making of the conveyance, lease, or sublease.

4 **SECTION 40.** 45.03 (5) (c) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

5 45.03 (5) (c) 1. a. Without limitation by reason of any other provisions of the
6 statutes except ss. 13.48 (14) (am) and 16.848 (1), unless otherwise required by law,
7 the power to sell and to convey title in fee simple to a nonprofit corporation any land
8 and any existing buildings owned by the state that are under the jurisdiction of the
9 department for the consideration and upon the terms and conditions as in the
10 judgment of the ~~board~~ department are in the public interest.

11 **SECTION 41.** 45.03 (5) (c) 1. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

12 45.03 (5) (c) 1. b. Unless otherwise required by law, the power to lease to a
13 nonprofit corporation for a term or terms not exceeding 50 years each any land and
14 any existing buildings owned by the state that are under the jurisdiction of the
15 department upon the terms and conditions as in the judgment of the ~~board~~
16 department are in the public interest.

17 **SECTION 42.** 45.03 (5) (c) 1. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

18 45.03 (5) (c) 1. c. The power to lease or sublease from the nonprofit corporation,
19 and to make available for public use, any land, or any land and existing buildings
20 conveyed or leased to such nonprofit corporation under subd. 1. a. and b., and any
21 new buildings erected upon such land or upon any other land owned by the nonprofit
22 corporation, upon the terms, conditions, and rentals, subject to available
23 appropriations, as in the judgment of the ~~board~~ department are in the public interest.

24 **SECTION 43.** 45.03 (5) (c) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

1 45.03 (5) (c) 3. Nothing in this subsection empowers the board or the
2 department to incur any state debt.

3 **SECTION 44.** 45.03 (5) (c) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

4 45.03 (5) (c) 4. ~~All powers and duties conferred upon the board or the~~
5 ~~department under this subsection shall be exercised and performed by resolution of~~
6 ~~the board.~~ All conveyances, leases, and subleases made under this subsection, when
7 authorized by resolution of the board, shall be made, executed, and delivered in the
8 name of the department and shall be signed by the secretary and sealed with the seal
9 of the department.

10 **SECTION 45.** 45.03 (12) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 45.03 (12) (a) The department may receive gifts and bequests in its name for
12 the benefit of Wisconsin veterans and their dependents in accordance with policies
13 adopted by the board. Moneys received shall be credited to the veterans trust fund.

14 **SECTION 46.** 45.03 (12) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 45.03 (12) (b) The department may receive moneys or other gifts and bequests
16 in its name for the benefit of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Moneys received shall
17 be credited to the veterans trust fund and used, as far as practicable, in accordance
18 with the wishes of the donors and in accordance with the board's policies.

19 **SECTION 47.** 45.03 (13) (j) of the statutes is repealed.

20 **SECTION 48.** 45.03 (13) (k) of the statutes is repealed.

21 **SECTION 49.** 45.03 (15) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 45.03 (15) DEFERRAL OF PAYMENTS AND INTEREST ON LOANS. When a veteran or
23 a member of the veteran's family makes application for deferment of payment of
24 monthly installments and waiver of interest charges on veterans loans made under
25 this chapter, showing that the ability of the veteran to make payment is materially

1 and adversely affected by reason of military service, the department may, ~~with the~~
2 ~~approval of the board,~~ defer payment of monthly installments and waive interest
3 charges on veterans loans made under this chapter for the duration of any period of
4 service in the armed forces of the United States during a national emergency or in
5 time of war or under P.L. 87-117 and 6 months from date of discharge or separation
6 and the time for payment may be extended for the same period. However, when funds
7 estimated to be received in the veterans mortgage loan repayment fund to pay debt
8 service on public debt contracted under s. 20.866 (2) (zn) and (zo) are less than the
9 funds estimated to be required for the payment of the debt service, the ~~board~~
10 department may grant deferral of payments and interest on loans provided under s.
11 45.37 only when so required by federal law.

12 **SECTION 50.** 45.37 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 45.37 (4) (a) The ~~board~~ department shall determine the interest rate on loans
14 made under this section. Except as provided in sub. (11), the interest rate
15 determined may not be increased during the term of the loan. Except as provided
16 in sub. (11), the interest rate shall be as low as possible but shall be sufficient to fully
17 pay all expenses and to provide reserves that are reasonably expected to be required
18 in the judgment of the board in accordance with par. (b) and sub. (7) (a) 3.

19 **SECTION 51.** 45.37 (4) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

20 45.37 (4) (b) 1. The ~~board~~ department shall select and implement the methods
21 of insuring against losses arising from delinquency and default in the repayment of
22 loans funded under sub. (6) (a) and shall select and implement the methods of
23 managing and selling any property securing loans funded under sub. (6) (a).

24 **SECTION 52.** 45.37 (4) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

1 45.37 (4) (b) 2. The ~~board~~ department shall charge or cause to be charged to
2 borrowers all costs necessary to insure against losses under subd. 1.

3 **SECTION 53.** 45.37 (6) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

4 45.37 (6) (a) 2. The ~~chairperson of the board~~ secretary shall certify that the
5 ~~chairperson~~ secretary does not expect proceeds of state debt issued under this
6 paragraph to be used in a manner that would cause the debt to be arbitrage bonds
7 as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, if that debt is a bond that is exempt from
8 federal taxation.

9 **SECTION 54.** 45.37 (6) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

10 45.37 (6) (c) 2. The ~~chairperson of the board~~ secretary shall certify that ~~the~~
11 ~~board and the department do~~ does not expect and shall not use proceeds of revenue
12 obligations issued under this paragraph in a manner that would cause the revenue
13 obligations to be arbitrage bonds as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, where
14 that debt is a bond that is exempt from federal taxation.

15 **SECTION 55.** 45.37 (7) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 45.37 (7) (a) (intro.) There is created the veterans mortgage loan repayment
17 fund. All moneys received by the department for the repayment of loans funded
18 under sub. (6) (a) except for servicing fees required to be paid to authorized lenders,
19 net proceeds from the sale of mortgaged properties, any repayment to the
20 department of moneys paid to authorized lenders, gifts, grants, other
21 appropriations, and interest earnings accruing, any repayment of moneys borrowed
22 under s. 45.42 (8) (a), all moneys received under sub. (5) (a) 6., and any moneys
23 deposited or transferred under s. 18.04 (6) (b) or (d) shall be promptly deposited into
24 the veterans mortgage loan repayment fund. The ~~board~~ department shall establish
25 by resolution a system of accounts providing for the maintenance and disbursement

1 of moneys of the veterans mortgage loan repayment fund to fund loans under sub.
2 (6) (a) or to fund, refund, or acquire public debt as provided in s. 18.04 (5). The system
3 of accounts shall record and provide moneys for all of the following purposes:

4 **SECTION 56.** 45.37 (7) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 45.37 (7) (b) The ~~board~~ department may amend the system of accounts
6 established under par. (a) only ~~by resolution of the board that is approved by~~ with the
7 approval of the building commission.

8 **SECTION 57.** 45.37 (10) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 45.37 (10) (a) All moneys received from any source for repayment of loans,
10 mortgages, or mortgage loan notes funded with proceeds of revenue obligations
11 issued under sub. (6) (c) shall be deposited into one or more separate nonlapsible
12 trust funds in the state treasury or with a trustee appointed for that purpose by the
13 authorizing resolution for the revenue obligations. The ~~board~~ department may
14 pledge revenues received by the funds to secure revenue obligations issued under
15 sub. (6) (c) and shall have all other powers necessary and convenient to distribute the
16 proceeds of the revenue obligations and loan repayments in accordance with subch.
17 II of ch. 18. Unrestricted balances in the funds may be used to fund additional loans
18 issued under sub. (6) (c) and pay the balances owing on loans after the assumptions
19 of the loans or the closings of the sales of residences under sub. (11) (c).

20 **SECTION 58.** 45.43 (title) and (1) of the statutes are amended to read:

21 **45.43 (title) ~~Veterans assistance program~~ housing and recovery**
22 **programs; aid to indigent veterans.** (1) The department shall administer ~~a~~
23 ~~program~~ programs to provide assistance to persons who served in the U.S. armed
24 forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces and who were
25 discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. The department shall provide

1 assistance under this section to persons whose need for services is based upon
2 homelessness, incarceration, or other circumstances designated by the department
3 by rule. The eligibility requirements under s. 45.02 (2) do not apply to a person
4 applying for assistance under this section. The department shall designate the
5 assistance available under this section, which may include assistance in receiving
6 medical care, dental care, education, employment, single room occupancy housing,
7 and transitional housing, and, notwithstanding s. 45.51 (14), housing in an assisted
8 living facility. The department may provide payments to facilitate the provision of
9 services under this section.

10 **SECTION 59.** 45.50 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 45.50 (4) (a) The department may use moneys appropriated under s. 20.485 (1)
12 (h) to purchase, erect, construct, or remodel buildings, to provide additions and
13 improvements, to provide equipment, materials, supplies, and services necessary for
14 the purposes of veterans homes, and for expenses that are necessary and incidental
15 to acquisition of property under s. ~~45.51 (10)~~ 45.50 (14) and (11) (15).

16 **SECTION 60.** 45.51 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 45.51 (3) (b) Spouses, surviving spouses, and parents derive their eligibility
18 from the eligibility of the person under sub. (2) (a) 1. or 2. Surviving spouses and
19 parents of eligible persons under sub. (2) (a) 1. or 2. shall not be eligible for admission
20 to the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove, the Wisconsin Veterans Home at
21 King, or the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls unless a home's overall
22 occupancy level is below an optimal level as determined by the ~~board~~ department.

23 **SECTION 61.** 45.51 (3) (c) 1. d. of the statutes is amended to read:

24 45.51 (3) (c) 1. d. Parents of eligible persons under sub. (2) (a) 1. ~~or 2.~~ to 3. have
25 4th priority for admission.

1 **SECTION 62.** 45.51 (3) (c) 1m. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

2 45.51 (3) (c) 1m. c. A person who is ~~not a resident of the state on the date of~~
3 ~~application for membership in a veterans home~~ eligible under sub. (1m) has 3rd
4 priority for admission.

5 **SECTION 63.** 45.51 (3) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

6 45.51 (3) (c) 2. The department may deviate from this sequence ~~upon order of~~
7 ~~the board~~ to prevent the separation of a husband and wife.

8 **SECTION 64.** 45.51 (6m) of the statutes is renumbered 45.51 (1m) and amended
9 to read:

10 45.51 (1m) RESIDENCY. ~~In~~ Notwithstanding s. 45.02 (2) and subject to sub. (3),
11 in order to be eligible for benefits under this subchapter, a person ~~specified under~~
12 ~~sub. (2) (a) 1., 2., or 3.~~ does not have to be a resident of this state ~~on the date of~~
13 ~~application for membership.~~

14 **SECTION 65.** 45.51 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 45.50 (12), and 45.50 (12)
15 (a), as renumbered, is amended to read:

16 45.50 (12) (a) The ~~board~~ department shall establish a pay plan for
17 compensation of members for services rendered to a veterans home under its work
18 therapy program.

19 **SECTION 66.** 45.51 (8) of the statutes is renumbered 45.50 (13).

20 **SECTION 67.** 45.51 (10) of the statutes is renumbered 45.50 (14), and 45.50 (14)
21 (a) and (b), as renumbered, are amended to read:

22 45.50 (14) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the application
23 and admission of any applicant admitted under ~~this section~~ s. 45.51 shall constitute
24 a valid and binding contract between a member and the department. If a member
25 dies leaving a relative that is entitled to an interest in the property of the member

1 under the rules of intestate succession or a will the existence of which is made known
2 to the commandant of the veterans home within 60 days of the member's death, the
3 member's property shall constitute a part of the member's estate, except the
4 commandant may distribute personal effects of nominal monetary value of a
5 deceased member who is not survived by a member spouse to surviving relatives of
6 the member who request the personal effects within a reasonable time after the
7 member's death.

8 (b) The department may manage, sell, lease, or transfer property passing to the
9 state pursuant to ~~this section~~ s. 45.51 or conveyed to it by members, defend and
10 prosecute all actions concerning it, pay all just claims against it, and do all other
11 things necessary for the protection, preservation, and management of the property.
12 All expenditures necessary for the execution of functions under this paragraph or
13 ~~sub. s. 45.51~~ (14) shall be made from the appropriation in s. 20.485 (1) (h).

14 **SECTION 68.** 45.51 (11) of the statutes is renumbered 45.50 (15).

15 **SECTION 69.** 45.51 (12) of the statutes is renumbered 45.50 (16).

16 **SECTION 70.** 45.57 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 45.57 (1) The department may transfer all or part of the unencumbered balance
18 of any of the appropriations under s. 20.485 (1) (g), (~~gd~~), (gk), or (i) to the veterans
19 trust fund or to the veterans mortgage loan repayment fund.

20 **SECTION 71.** 45.70 (1b) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 45.70 (1b) and
21 amended to read:

22 45.70 (1b) The ~~board~~ department may approve, recommend, and veto any
23 proposed plans, modifications, and changes or policies with respect to established
24 state memorials and any future veterans state memorials, and may recommend the
25 creation and establishment of future veterans state memorials.

1 **SECTION 72.** 45.70 (1b) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

2 **SECTION 73.** 45.70 (1m) of the statutes is repealed.

3 **SECTION 74.** 45.70 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 45.70 (2) (b) No structures, other than memorials approved by the board
5 department, and no walks, roads, or subterranean footings may be placed or erected
6 upon Camp Randall Memorial Park, Madison, Wisconsin, as described in par. (c),
7 unless authorized by the legislature; nor shall the park be used for any permanent
8 purpose other than a memorial park and no event may be held within the park unless
9 approved by the department.

10 **SECTION 75.** 45.82 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 45.82 (1) Each county may annually apply to the department for a grant for the
12 improvement of service to former military personnel of the county through the
13 county veterans service office. A county may not allocate any portion of a grant for
14 use by another county department nor may the county reduce funding to a county
15 veterans service office based upon receipt of a grant. ~~The county veterans service~~
16 ~~officer of any county applying for the grant shall enter into an agreement with the~~
17 ~~department. The agreement shall state the goals and objectives to be attained by the~~
18 ~~county veterans service office during the remainder of the year covered by the grant~~
19 ~~application. The department shall prepare the basic form of this agreement in~~
20 ~~consultation with the county veterans service officers association and provide a copy~~
21 ~~and an explanation of that agreement to each county veterans service officer. The~~
22 ~~department shall develop reasonable budget and operating standards to assure~~
23 ~~improved services, but full operating control of the county office shall be left to each~~
24 ~~county.~~

25 **SECTION 76.** 851.09 of the statutes is amended to read:

1 **851.09 Heir.** “Heir” means any person, including the surviving spouse, who
2 is entitled under the statutes of intestate succession to an interest in property of a
3 decedent. The state is an heir of the decedent and a person interested under s. ~~45.51~~
4 ~~(10)~~ 45.50 (14) and ~~(11)~~ (15) when the decedent was a member of a Wisconsin veterans
5 home operated by the department of veterans affairs under s. 45.50 at the time of the
6 decedent’s death.

7 **SECTION 77. Nonstatutory provisions.**

8 (1) In this section, “task force” means the task force on planning for the future
9 statewide delivery of programs, benefits, and services to Wisconsin veterans created
10 in subsection (2).

11 (2) There is created a task force on planning for the future statewide delivery
12 of programs, benefits, and services to Wisconsin veterans to study factors that may
13 affect future operations of veterans benefits service organizations at the state,
14 county, and municipal level and to develop a 20-year operational plan that would
15 include recommendations to improve coordination between organizations at all
16 levels in order to deliver services in the most cost-effective manner.

17 (3) The task force shall be co-chaired by a member of the assembly, appointed
18 by the speaker of the assembly, and a member of the senate, appointed by the senate
19 majority leader, and shall be comprised of one representative from each of the
20 following:

21 (a) The senate committee on transportation and veterans affairs.

22 (b) The assembly committee on veterans and military affairs.

23 (c) The department of veterans affairs.

24 (d) Wisconsin Counties Association.

25 (e) Wisconsin County Veterans Service Officer Association.

- 1 (f) Wisconsin Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- 2 (g) American Legion Department of Wisconsin.
- 3 (h) Military Order of the Purple Heart of Wisconsin.
- 4 (i) Disabled American Veterans of Wisconsin.
- 5 (j) Vietnam Veterans of America, Wisconsin State Council.
- 6 (k) Wisconsin Council of the Military Officers Association of America.
- 7 (l) Board of veterans affairs.

8 (4) In conducting the study under subsection (2), the task force shall consider
9 all of the following:

- 10 (a) The changing population and demographics of the veterans population and
11 changing factors in rural, suburban, and urban areas of Wisconsin.
- 12 (b) Advancement of technology and its ability to improve and impact the
13 delivery of services to veterans in Wisconsin.
- 14 (c) The different types of benefits available to veterans and their families and
15 the extent to which Wisconsin veterans participate in major state and federal benefit
16 programs.
- 17 (d) County differences in funding, staffing, and supervision of offices, including
18 how those differences may affect veterans receiving benefits and the amounts
19 veterans receive.
- 20 (e) State oversight of the grantees.

21 (5) The task force shall summarize its findings and make recommendations to
22 the governor and the legislature in a report to be submitted within 6 months of the
23 effective date of this subsection [LRB inserts date].

24 **SECTION 78. Effective dates.** This act takes effect on the day after publication,
25 except as follows:

