

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS (385) - 2007-09 BIENNIUM

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The purpose of this agency is to assist veterans and their dependents in securing their rights and benefits under federal and state laws. This agency also maintains two Veterans Homes - a 116 bed facility in Little Rock and a 108 bed facility that opened in June of 06 in Fayetteville and the State Veterans Cemetery in North Little Rock. The agency also provides assistance to the County Veterans Service Officers.

TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

The agency's total budget for the FY08 is \$12,031,652 and \$12,069,452 for FY09.

FUNDING SOURCE

The budget is funded by general revenue (administration) and by fees for services and federal reimbursement.

II) CHANGES/APPROPRIATIONS

- Increase of \$17,710 in the first year and \$14,970 in the second year of appropriation and new general revenue funding for replacement of outdated computers and other data processing costs.
- Increase in appropriation and general revenue funding of \$88,000 in FY08 and \$113,000 in FY09 for Refunds/Reimbursements for increases in the Quality Assurance Fee (Bed Tax).
- No General Revenue Funding is being requested for the Fayetteville Veterans' Home. Funding will consist of a federal per diem reimbursement from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, cash maintenance fees provided by the residents and Medicaid and Medicare funding.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Total positions for the 2007-09 biennium: 216

Total positions for FY 2007: 216

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

* Veterans Service Officers: Funds appropriated for Aid to County Veterans Service Offices may be used to pay expenses of the officers for attending training conferences approved by the Department.

