

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 654

BY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONEYS TO THE DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES FOR  
2 FISCAL YEAR 2012; APPROPRIATING MONEYS TO THE DIVISION OF VETER-  
3 ANS SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013; LIMITING THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED  
4 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; PROVID-  
5 ING GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS; AND DECLARING AN  
6 EMERGENCY.  
7

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

9 SECTION 1. In addition to the appropriation made in Section 1, Chap-  
10 ter 289, Laws of 2011, and any other appropriation provided for by law, there  
11 is hereby appropriated to the Division of Veterans Services, the following  
12 amounts to be expended for the designated operating expenditures, from the  
13 listed funds for the period July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012:

14 FOR:  
15 Operating Expenditures \$2,000,000  
16 FROM:  
17 Miscellaneous Revenue Fund \$1,080,000  
18 Federal Grant Fund 920,000  
19 TOTAL \$2,000,000

20 SECTION 2. There is hereby appropriated to the Division of Veterans  
21 Services, the following amounts to be expended for the designated expense  
22 classes, from the listed funds for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30,  
23 2013:

|                                   | FOR         | FOR          | FOR         | FOR         |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                   | PERSONNEL   | OPERATING    | CAPITAL     | TRUSTEE AND |             |
|                                   | COSTS       | EXPENDITURES | OUTLAY      | BENEFIT     | TOTAL       |
|                                   |             |              |             | PAYMENTS    |             |
| 28 FROM:                          |             |              |             |             |             |
| 29 General                        |             |              |             |             |             |
| 30 Fund                           | \$1,018,500 |              |             | \$48,900    | \$1,067,400 |
| 31 Miscellaneous Revenue          |             |              |             |             |             |
| 32 Fund                           | 11,084,100  | \$4,034,500  | \$1,777,000 |             | 16,895,600  |
| 33 Veterans Home Endowment Income |             |              |             |             |             |
| 34 Fund                           |             | 492,600      |             | 1,500       | 494,100     |

|   | FOR           | FOR              | FOR               | FOR              |              |
|---|---------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
|   | PERSONNEL     | OPERATING        | CAPITAL           | TRUSTEE AND      |              |
|   | COSTS         | EXPENDITURES     | OUTLAY            | BENEFIT          | TOTAL        |
|   |               |                  |                   | PAYMENTS         |              |
| 5 | Federal Grant |                  |                   |                  |              |
| 6 | Fund          | <u>5,217,200</u> | <u>14,290,600</u> | <u>1,331,600</u> | <u>0</u>     |
| 7 | TOTAL         | \$17,319,800     | \$18,817,700      | \$3,108,600      | \$50,400     |
|   |               |                  |                   |                  | \$39,296,500 |

8 SECTION 3. FTP AUTHORIZATION. In accordance with Section 67-3519,  
9 Idaho Code, the Division of Veterans Services is authorized no more than  
10 three hundred ten and seven-tenths (310.7) full-time equivalent positions  
11 at any point during the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013, unless  
12 specifically authorized by the Governor. The Joint Finance-Appropriations  
13 Committee will be notified promptly of any increased positions so autho-  
14 rized.

15 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the Legislature that  
16 the Division of Veterans Services, with the cooperation and assistance of  
17 the Division of Financial Management, the Division of Medicaid in the De-  
18 partment of Health and Welfare, and the Legislative Services Office, ana-  
19 lyze and report on the cause of ongoing excess revenues being generated by  
20 the services provided by the Division of Veterans Services. The Division of  
21 Veterans Services is also requested to prepare a plan and include such plan  
22 to reduce the generation of excess revenues as part of its fiscal year 2014  
23 budget submission. In addition, the Division of Veterans Services shall de-  
24 velop and propose a long-range proposal, subject to the approval of the Gov-  
25 ernor and appropriation by the Legislature, to maximize the use of exist-  
26 ing fund balances for the support and benefit of all veterans as appropri-  
27 ate. The Division of Veterans Services shall update the Division of Finan-  
28 cial Management and Legislative Services Office at least quarterly on its  
29 progress in plan development, and may be requested to update the Joint Fi-  
30 nance-Appropriations Committee during the interim meetings at the request  
31 of the Co-Chairmen.

32 SECTION 5. EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS. The Legislature rec-  
33 ognizes and thanks all state workers for their dedication, professionalism  
34 and for the personal sacrifices they make every day in the performance of  
35 their duties to serve our citizens. In accordance with the provisions of  
36 Section 67-5309C, Idaho Code, the Legislature supports the Governor's rec-  
37 ommendation in not making changes in annual salaries and benefits for state  
38 employees based upon labor markets or specific occupational inequities;  
39 directs agencies and institutions that have excess personnel cost appro-  
40 priations or salary savings due to turnover to use such funding for a merit  
41 increase component, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 67-5309B(4),  
42 Idaho Code, to recognize and reward permanent and temporary state employ-  
43 ees; and does provide funding to agencies and institutions to provide a two  
44 percent (2%) pay increase for all classified and nonclassified permanent  
45 performing employees. Performing employees shall be all permanent employ-  
46 ees, including adjunct faculty at colleges and universities, who have been

1 rated as "achieves" or better on a performance plan if required by Division  
2 of Human Resources rule, including probationary permanent employees making  
3 satisfactory progress. The Legislature supports the Governor's recommenda-  
4 tion to fund increases in the cost of health insurance benefits and directs  
5 the director of the Department of Administration, as the administrator of  
6 the state insurance plan, to maintain the current benefit package to the ex-  
7 tent possible, which may require a cost sharing on the part of employees for  
8 the increased cost of the health insurance plan.

9 SECTION 6. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby  
10 declared to exist, Section 1 of this act shall be in full force and effect on  
11 and after passage and approval.