


Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
STATE
FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 10-0437	Date: February 19, 2010
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Nikkel; Todd Sen. Shaffer B.; Spence	Bill Status: House SVMA Fiscal Analyst: Janis Baron (303-866-3523)

TITLE: CONCERNING USING MONEYS IN THE COLORADO STATE VETERANS TRUST FUND TO CONSTRUCT NATIONAL GUARD ARMORIES.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012
State Revenue		
State Expenditures Cash Funds State Veterans Trust Fund	Potential appropriations from the fund.	
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2010-2011: None required.		
Local Government Impact:		

Summary of Legislation

This bill allows moneys in the Colorado State Veterans Trust Fund to be used for construction projects to build National Guard armories at Alamosa, Grand Junction, and Windsor. The use of moneys in the trust fund for this purpose is repealed July 1, 2012.

Background

The Colorado State Veterans Trust Fund is comprised of tobacco moneys under the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA), and any gifts, grants, or donations received. Current law stipulates that one percent, up to \$1.0 million, of MSA payments received annually are to be transferred to the trust fund. Over the past several years, about \$900,000 annually has been transferred to the trust fund.

Presently, the General Assembly can only appropriate 90 percent of the trust fund's balance plus interest earnings. Current funding supports capital improvements and amenities at state veterans nursing homes, operations at state veterans cemeteries, and grants for veterans programs operated by non-profit veterans organizations. This bill effectively allows about \$4.7 million of the remaining balance to be appropriated for three armories.

For FY 2010-11, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is requesting cash funds support for construction of these three armories, as noted in the table below. With this bill, the projects could receive combined funding from the Real Estate Proceeds Fund and the trust fund. A state match is required to draw down federal funds available for these construction projects. No decision or recommendations on funding these requests has been finalized by the Capital Development Committee as yet.

Grand Junction Readiness Center Construction	\$3,688,553
Windsor Readiness Center Construction	1,888,105
Alamosa Readiness Center Construction	853,568
Total - Cash Funds	\$6,187,366

State Expenditures

The bill authorizes the General Assembly to appropriate about \$4.7 million in the trust fund for both FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12. The decision to appropriate these moneys will be made by the General Assembly, and any new funding decisions will be made in the annual Long Bill.

Departments Contacted

Military and Veterans Affairs

Legislature - Legislative Council, CDC Staff