

Louisiana Senate Finance Committee



FY18 Executive Budget

03 – Department of Veterans Affairs

May 2017

Sen. John A. Alario, Jr., President

Sen. Eric LaFleur, Chairman





FY18 Executive Budget

Schedule 03 — Veterans Affairs Agencies

Departmental mission "To provide comprehensive care and quality service to Louisiana's Veterans and their families with regard to health care, education, disability benefits, long-term care and burial honors."

03-130	Veterans Affairs	Administrative
		Claims
		Contact Assistance
		State Approval Agency
		State Veterans Cemetery
03-131	Louisiana War Veterans Home	
03-132	Northeast Louisiana War Veterans Home	
03-134	Southwest Louisiana War Veterans Home	
03-135	Northwest Louisiana War Veterans Home	
03-136	Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home	



Total Funding	FY16 Actual	FY17 Enacted	FY17 EOB as of 12-1-16	FY18 Recommended	FY18 Re-engrossed HB1	Difference FY18 Re-engrossed HB1 vs. FY17 EOB as of 12-1-16
Preamble	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (147,638)	\$ (147,638)
Veterans Affairs	7,775,138	8,819,610	9,169,610	8,907,355	9,207,355	37,745
LA War Vets Home	10,277,238	10,079,402	10,079,402	10,387,576	10,387,576	308,174
NELA War Vets	10,546,875	10,395,859	10,767,094	10,981,518	10,981,518	214,424
SWLA War Vets	10,194,113	10,334,153	10,334,153	11,168,535	11,168,535	834,382
NWLA War Vets	10,627,778	10,578,711	10,578,711	11,065,845	11,065,845	487,134
SELA War Vets	11,015,003	11,354,045	11,354,045	12,470,796	12,470,796	
TOTAL	\$ 60,436,145	\$ 61,561,780	\$ 62,283,015	\$ 64,981,625	\$ 65,133,987	\$ 2,850,972
Total Authorized FTEs	838	840	840	840	840	-

Total State Effort — State General Fund, Dedicated Funds, and Fees and Self-generated Revenue

3

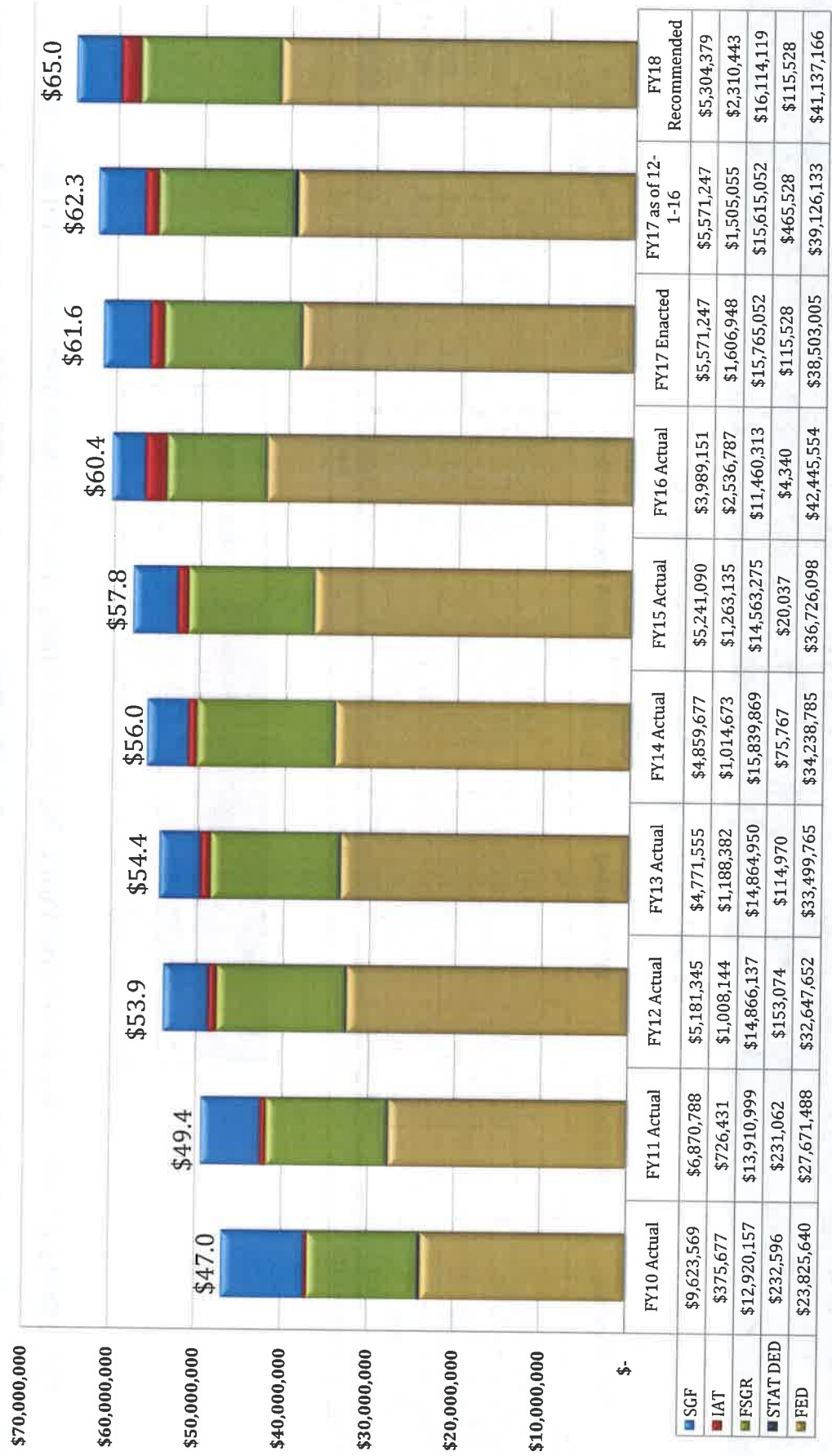


Veterans Affairs

Changes in Funding since FY10

**Total Budget by Fiscal Year and Means of Finance
(in \$ millions)**

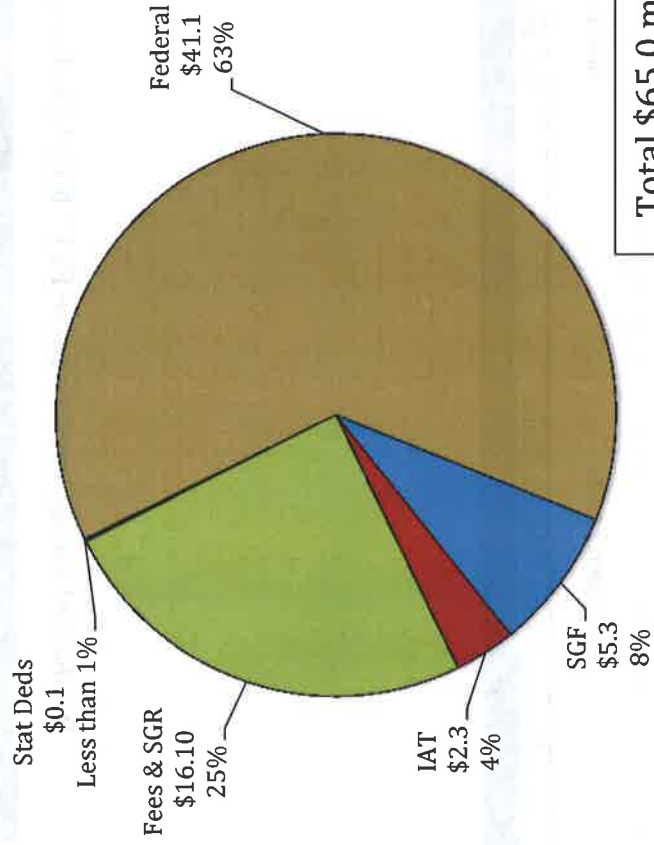
Change from FY10 to FY18 is 38.3%.





FY18 Recommended Means of Finance

**FY18 Recommended
Total Means of Finance
(In Millions)**



Total \$65.0 m.

Non-SGF Sources of Funding:

Non-State General Fund funding sources for the Department of Veterans Affairs includes dollars derived from Interagency Transfers, Fees and Self-generated Revenues, Statutory Dedications, and Federal Funds.

Statutory Dedications come from the Louisiana Military Family Assistance Fund.

Interagency Transfers are derived from other Veterans Affairs agencies and homes.

Fees and Self-generated Revenues are derived from each parish's contribution towards providing a veterans service office. Fees and Self-generated Revenues for Veterans Homes are derived from the residents' ability to pay for part of their care and from employees and visitors purchasing meal tickets.

Federal Funds are derived from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Federal Funds for the Homes are derived from the Veterans Administration for patient care days based on a reimbursement rate of \$102.38 per day for the care of each veteran housed as reflected in the daily census and the Medicare eligible residents cost reimbursement from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.



Veterans Affairs Dedicated Funds

FY16, FY17, and FY18

Dedicated Funds	Source of Funding	FY16 Actual	FY17 Enacted	FY18 Recommended
Louisiana Military Family Assistance Fund	Tax return donations.	\$4,340	\$115,528	\$115,528
TOTALS		\$4,340	\$115,528	\$115,528

Dedicated Funds used to solve FY17 Mid-Year Deficits — Includes December and February Adjustments

Dedicated Fund	Amount
Louisiana Military Family Assistance Fund	\$115,528



Veterans Affairs Expenditures

FY16, FY17, and FY18

Expenditure Category	FY16 Actual	FY17 Enacted	FY18 Recommended	Percent Change FY17 Enacted vs. FY18 Recommended
Personal Services:	\$42,759,952	\$44,433,015	\$46,030,629	3.6
Salaries	\$28,758,552	\$29,366,705	\$30,013,933	2.2
Other Compensation	\$632,911	\$676,539	\$775,555	14.6
Related Benefits	\$13,368,489	\$14,389,771	\$15,241,141	5.9
Operating Expenses:	\$8,511,090	\$8,112,610	\$8,472,213	4.4
Travel	\$129,708	\$180,079	\$170,250	(5.5)
Operating Services	\$3,070,831	\$2,960,540	\$3,192,419	7.8
Supplies	\$5,310,551	\$4,971,991	\$5,109,544	2.8
Professional Services	\$2,874,129	\$3,063,948	\$3,101,458	1.2
Other Charges:	\$5,595,383	\$5,264,258	\$5,660,309	7.5
Other Charges	\$553,982	\$707,296	\$359,879	(49.1)
Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Interagency Transfers	\$5,041,401	\$4,556,962	\$5,300,430	16.3
Acquisitions & Major Repairs:	\$695,591	\$687,949	\$1,717,016	149.6
Acquisitions	\$483,262	\$323,950	\$1,105,301	241.2
Major Repairs	\$212,329	\$363,999	\$611,715	68.1
Total Expenditures	\$60,436,145	\$61,561,780	\$64,981,625	5.6



Veterans Affairs

Total Statewide Adjustments for FY18

03_VETS

Department of Veterans Affairs

ADJUSTMENTS TO EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET

Recommended

GEN. FUND	I.A.T.	SELF-GEN.	STAT. DED.	I.E.B.	FEDERAL	TOTAL	T.O.	DESCRIPTION
\$5,571,247	\$1,505,055	\$15,615,052	\$465,528	\$0	\$39,126,133	\$62,283,015	840	Existing Oper Budget as of 12/01/16
A. STATEWIDE STANDARDS								
(\$108,252)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$108,252)	0	State General Fund (SGF) reduction in accordance with the Louisiana Constitution, Article VII, Section 11(A).
(\$190,732)	\$22,373	\$112,525	\$0	\$0	\$311,244	\$255,410	0	Related Benefits Base Adjustment
\$72,204	\$52,740	\$38,515	\$0	\$0	\$388,213	\$531,672	0	Retirement Rate Adjustment
(\$67,085)	\$0	\$190,050	\$0	\$0	\$193,050	\$316,015	0	Salary Base Adjustment
(\$197,827)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$133,678)	(\$331,505)	0	Attrition Adjustment
\$0	\$0	\$155,979	\$0	\$0	\$1,262,219	\$1,418,198	0	Acquisitions & Major Repairs
\$0	(\$38,168)	(\$136,987)	\$0	\$0	(\$682,794)	(\$857,949)	0	Non-Recurring Acquisitions & Major Repairs
(\$9,482)	\$0	(\$23,641)	\$0	\$0	\$48,923	\$15,800	0	Risk Management
\$104,172	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$104,172	0	Legislative Auditor Fees
\$217	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$217	0	Rent in State-Owned Buildings
\$79	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$79	0	Capitol Park Security
\$310	\$0	(\$79)	\$0	\$0	\$1,015	\$1,246	0	UPS Fees
\$750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,834	\$12,584	0	Civil Service Fees
\$558	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$558	0	State Treasury Fees
(\$2,780)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$24,286	\$21,506	0	Office of Technology Services (OTS)
\$4,116	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,580	\$6,696	0	Office of State Procurement
\$235,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$235,000)	\$0	0	TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING SUB ADJUSTMENT
\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$350,000)	\$0	\$0	(\$350,000)	0	TOTAL NON-RECURRING OTHER ADJUSTMENT
(\$108,116)	\$768,433	\$162,705	\$0	\$0	\$839,141	\$1,662,163	0	TOTAL OTHER ADJUSTMENTS ADJUSTMENT



Veterans Affairs

Total Statewide Adjustments for FY18

03_VETS

Department of Veterans Affairs

ADJUSTMENTS TO EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET

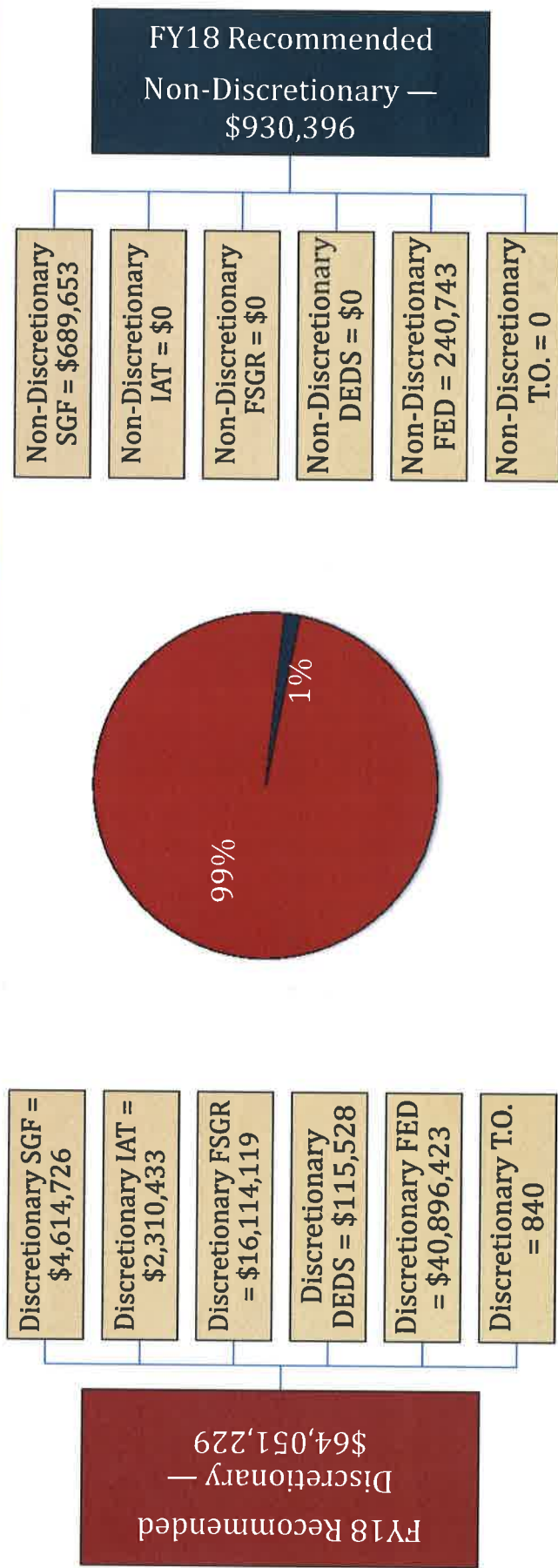
Recommended

GEN. FUND	I.A.T.	SELF-GEN	STAT. DED.	I.E.B.	FEDERAL	TOTAL	T.O.	DESCRIPTION
\$5,304,379	\$2,310,433	\$16,114,119	\$115,528	\$0	\$41,137,166	\$64,981,625	840	Total Budget
(\$266,868)	\$805,378	\$499,067	(\$350,000)	\$0	\$2,011,033	\$2,698,610	0	Total Adjustments



Veterans Affairs

FY18 Discretionary/Non-Discretionary Comparison



Total Discretionary Funding by Office			
Department of Veterans Affairs	\$ 8,217,702		13%
LA War Veterans Home	\$ 10,387,576		16%
Northeast LA War Veterans Home	\$ 10,945,818		17%
Southwest LA War Veterans Home	\$ 10,963,492		17%
Northwest LA War Veterans Home	\$ 11,065,845		17%
Southeast LA War Veterans Home	\$ 12,470,796		19%
Total Discretionary	\$ 64,051,229		100%

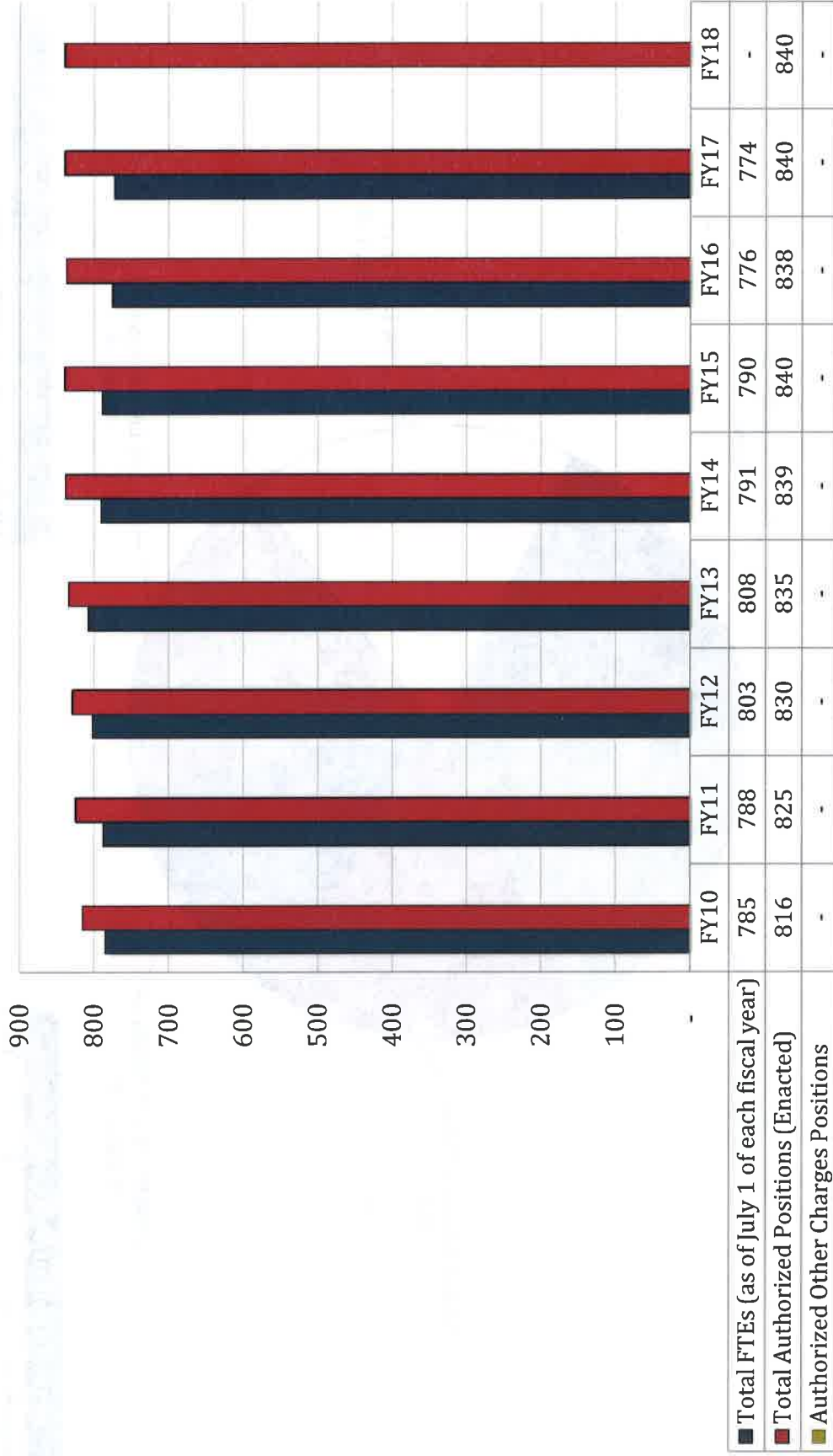
Total Non-Discretionary Funding by Type			
Needed for Debt Service	\$ 199,185		21%
Unavoidable Obligations	\$ 731,211		79%
Total Non-Discretionary	\$ 930,396		100%

Debt Service = Rent in State-owned Buildings
Unavoidable Obligations = Retirees Group Insurance; Maintenance in State-owned Buildings; and Legislative Auditor Fees.



Veterans Affairs

FTEs, Authorized Positions, and Other Charges Positions



Notes:

Data for Total FTEs uses the first weekly employment report published by State Civil Service in July at the start of the named fiscal year.

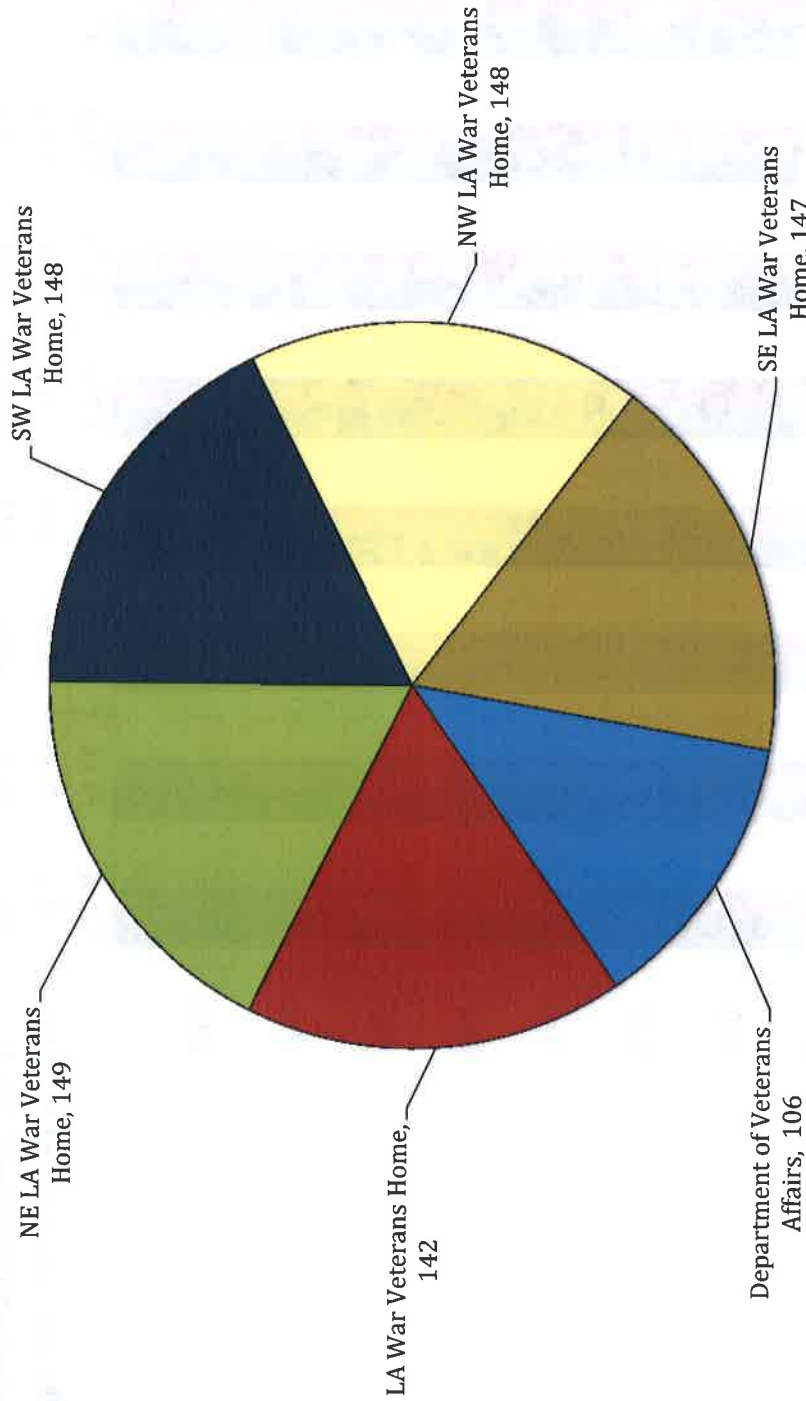
Data for Total Authorized Positions uses fiscal year enacted levels, except for FY18 Recommended.

Data for Other Charges Positions are reflected in the Executive Budget per Act 377 of the 2013 Regular Legislative Session (beginning in FY15).



Veterans Affairs

FY18 Recommended Total Authorized Positions by Agency



Department of Veterans Affairs	
Administrative	19
Claims	7
Contact Assistance	54
State Approval Agency	3
State Veterans Cemetery	23

War Veterans Homes	
Louisiana War Veterans Home	142
Northeast LA War Veterans Home	149
Southwest LA War Veterans Home	148
Northwest LA War Veterans Home	148
Southeast LA War Veterans Home	147



Veterans Affairs

FY18 Recommended Total Authorized Positions by Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs

Administrative Program - Provides the service programs of the Department, as well as the Louisiana War Veterans Home, Northeast Louisiana War Veterans Home, Northwest Louisiana War Veterans Home, Southwest Louisiana War Veterans Home, and Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home with administrative and support personnel, assistance, and training necessary to carry out the efficient operation of the activities.

Claims Program - Assists veterans and/or their dependents to receive any and all benefits to which they are entitled under federal law.

Contact Assistance Program - Informs veterans and/or their dependents of federal and state benefits to which they are entitled, and assists in applying for and securing these benefits; and operates offices throughout the state.

State Approval Agency - Conducts inspections and provides technical assistance to programs of education pursued by veterans and other eligible persons under statute. The program also works to ensure that programs of education, job training, and flight schools are approved in accordance with Title 38, relative to plan of operation and veteran's administration contract.

State Veterans Cemetery - State Veterans Cemetery consists of the Northwest Louisiana State Veterans Cemetery in Keithville, Louisiana, the Central Louisiana State Veterans Cemetery in Leesville, Louisiana, the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Slidell, Louisiana, and the Northeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Rayville, Louisiana.

Veterans Homes - Provide medical and nursing care to eligible Louisiana veterans in an effort to return the veteran to the highest physical and mental capacity. There are 5 veterans homes across the state.



Veterans Affairs

Significant Increases for FY18

Increase	Source	T.O	Agency	Description
\$687,633	Interagency Transfers	0	Veterans Affairs	Provides for an increase in funding for wages and related benefits for Contact Assistance employees.
\$137,527	Federal	0	LA War Veterans Home	Provides for an increase in IAT expenditures due to the centralization of administrative functions of all Veterans Homes by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
\$135,724	Federal	0	Northwest LA War Veterans Home	Provides for an increase in IAT expenditures due to the centralization of administrative functions of all Veterans Homes by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
\$145,439	Self-Generated; Federal	0	Southeast LA War Veterans Home	Provides for an increase in IAT expenditures (\$75,566 - SGR) (\$69,873 - Federal) due to the centralization of administrative functions of all Veterans Homes by the Department of Veterans Affairs.



Veterans Affairs Significant Decreases for FY18

Decrease	Source	T.O	Agency	Description
\$108,252	General Fund	0	Veterans Affairs	Reduction in accordance with Louisiana Constitution, Article VII, Section 11(A).
\$350,000	Statutory Dedications - Military Family Assistance Fund	0	Veterans Affairs	Reduces Military Family Assistance Fund back to previous year's funding level. Funding was increased in FY 17 to assist Veterans impacted by the August 2016 flooding events.
\$200,000	General Fund	0	Veterans Affairs	Reduces funding for two disability claims (\$100,000 each) based on historical averages of claims per year.



Veterans Affairs

Significant Means of Financing Substitutions for FY18

MOF Swap	Source	T.O	Agency	Description
(\$235,000)	Federal Funds	0	Veterans Affairs - Cemetery	Replaces uncollected Federal funding with State General Fund due to cemeteries experiencing lower than expected number of burials and need these funds to provide mandated upkeep to the cemeteries.
\$235,000	General Fund	0	Veterans Affairs - Cemetery	Increases State General Fund. The Northwest and Southeast Louisiana Veterans Cemeteries need these funds to provide mandated upkeep to the cemeteries.



Veterans Affairs

Changes from FY18 Recommended to FY18 Re-engrossed

Changes from FY18 Recommended to FY18 Re- engrossed	Source	T.O	Agency	Description
(\$147,638)	General Fund	0	Department wide	Preamble reduction in State General Fund bringing the State General Fund appropriation back to the March 2017 funding level.
\$300,000	Federal Funds	0	Veterans Affairs – Cemetery	Increase in Federal Funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for reimbursement of repair expenses.

