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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
Bill Version: SB 55
(S) Publish Date: 1/23/01

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
Title: "An Act changing the name of the Alaska BRU Alaska Longevity Prog.
Pioneers' Home to Pi. & Veterans Home Component: Pioneers' Home
Sponsor: Rules
Requester: Governor Component Number: 1950

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation changes the name of the Alaska Pioneers' Home to the Alaska Pioneers' and Veterans' Home, establishes a veterans' preference for admission, and provides authority to establish by regulation a number of beds throughout the system to be reserved for veterans. The initial allocation is expected to be 120 beds. Although none of this requires additional funding, the Governor's FY 2002 budget includes an increase of \$5,107.7 (\$2,474.7 GF and \$2,633.0 Receipt Supported Services) and 126 PFT staff to allow filling approximately 86 vacant beds to accommodate admitting additional veterans. Most of these beds are in the Anchorage, Palmer and Sitka homes.

Prepared by: James L. Kohn Phone 465-2159
Division: Alaska Longevity Programs Date/Time 12/21/00 4:00 PM
Approved by: Alison Elgee, Deputy Commissioner Date 12/26/00
Agency: Department of Administration

For distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 2
 Bill Version: SB 55
 (S) Publish Date: 4/19/02

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Admin
 Title An Act changing the name of the AK Pioneers' BRU AK Longevity Programs
Homes - Amendment Component Pioneers' Homes
 Sponsor (S) Rules
 Requester (S) State Affairs Component No. 1950

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	250.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	250.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	250.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Capital funding of \$250.0 will be used to obtain a contract to study the needs of Alaskan veterans. This study will obtain in-depth information about the needs of veterans in the state who would not be served by the Pioneers' and Veterans' Home system and a plan to meet those needs. In general, senior veterans will require assistance with needs related to physical frailty and Alzheimer's disease which they will receive in the Pioneers' and Veterans' Home. Veterans younger than 65 years of age, in general, will require assistance related to homelessness, substance abuse and combat disability. The plan would include the best use of federal programs for state veterans and the use of state funds to leverage federal grants. The \$250.0 cost of the study is approximately one half the cost of a similar study recently funded by the State of Washington, and should save the state costly mis-steps in providing for the needs of Alaska veterans.

Prepared by: James Kohn, Director Phone 465-2159
 Division Alaska Longevity Programs Date/Time 01/17/02
 Approved by: Jim Duncan, Commissioner Date 1/17/2002
 Agency Department of Administration

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 3
Bill Version: SB 55
(S) Publish Date: 4/19/02

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Admin
Title An Act changing the name of the AK Pioneers' BRU AK Longevity Programs
Homes... Component Pioneers' Homes
Sponsor (S) Rules
Requester (S) State Affairs Component No. 1950

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personal Services	4,971.3	4,971.3	4,971.3	4,971.3	4,971.3	4,971.3
Travel						
Contractual	250.1	250.1	250.1	250.1	250.1	250.1
Supplies	76.2	76.2	76.2	76.2	76.2	76.2
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	5,297.6	5,297.6	5,297.6	5,297.6	5,297.6	5,297.6

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	2,914.6	2,914.6	2,914.6	2,914.6	2,914.6	2,914.6
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1118 Pioneers Home Receipts	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0	2,633.0
TOTAL	5,547.6	5,547.6	5,547.6	5,547.6	5,547.6	5,547.6

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time	128	128	128	128	128	128
Part-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Combining the Pioneers' Home tradition with the concept of a state veterans' home will maximize the use of the state's existing infrastructure. A significant number of Pioneers' Home residents are veterans. Veterans want assurance that a certain number of beds will be available for them in the state. Pledging some vacant beds to veterans fills this request. About 90 Pioneers' Home beds are vacant due to lack of funding to provide 24 hour staffing to meet the needs of applicants on the active waiting list. The vacant beds are primarily in Anchorage, Palmer and Sitka, and mostly in the coordinated services and basic assisted living levels of care which provide residential type services for fairly independent residents and require limited staffing. This funding would upgrade the designation of beds within the Homes from coordinated and basic assisted living services to levels providing 24 hour care which meets the needs of individuals on the active waiting list. With the addition of appropriate staffing, applicants (both veterans and non-veterans) could be admitted to vacant beds. Admission to vacant beds would also generate increased revenue. The funding would provide 128 full time direct care staff and contract funding for Sitka and Palmer for increased physical therapy.

Prepared by: James Kohn, Director Phone 465-2159
Division: Alaska Longevity Programs Date/Time 01/15/02
Approved by: _____ Date 1/15/2002
Agency: Department of Administration

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 110200
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0200
PHONE: (907) 465-2200
FAX: (907) 465-2135

April 23, 2002

The Honorable Lyda Green, Chair
Senate Health, Education and
Social Services Committee
State Capitol, Room 121
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I respectfully request that you schedule CS Senate Bill 55 (STA), an act relating to the Alaska Pioneers' Home and to a survey of certain housing and care needs of veterans in this state for a hearing before the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee as soon as possible.

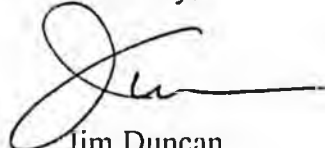
This bill will establish a veteran's preference for up to 21 percent of the Pioneers' Home beds statewide. We are currently negotiating an agreement with the U.S. Veterans' Administration (VA) to insure we meet the needs of veterans while maintaining the integrity of the Alaska Pioneers' Home System. Please see the attached letter from Secretary Principi and Memorandum of Understanding.

Our goal is to partner with the VA to provide veterans the services they need in our Pioneers' Home System. This approach has the advantage of using our existing six facilities to provide needed services rather than constructing one stand-alone Veterans' Home while 100 beds in our Pioneers' Homes are vacant due to lack of funding. SB 55 also provides for a survey and evaluation of the care and housing needs of veterans in this state.

The Senate State Affairs Committee CS for SB 55 does not include changing the name of the Alaska Pioneers' Home to the Alaska Pioneers' and Veterans' Home and consequently does not provide the recognition that our Alaskan Veterans deserve and desire.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Duncan
Commissioner

JD/RS/jd
Enclosure

cc: Mike Abbott, Legislative Director
Office of the Governor



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THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

April 2, 2002

Jim Duncan
Commissioner
Department of Administration
333 Willoughby Ave., 10th Fl.
State Office Building
Juneau, AK

Dear Mr. Duncan

This is in response to your letter regarding establishment of a partnership between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Alaska's Pioneer Homes. I appreciate your desire to meet the needs of veterans within the framework of the Pioneer Homes.

I fully support efforts that would enable VA and the State of Alaska to work cooperatively to address the elder care needs of Alaska's veterans. I understand the first step is to establish the Pioneer and Veterans Homes, and there is legislation pending to accomplish this. Once this legislation is enacted, I will be pleased to explore options for the provision of long term care for Alaska's veterans, to include the flexibilities of our State Veterans Homes and Contract Community Nursing Homes programs. I have enclosed some information on our State Veterans and Contract Community Nursing Home programs that I hope you will find helpful. What is paramount is assuring that the needs of Alaska's veterans and VA's standards for nursing home care are met.

Marsha Goodwin, Acting Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care Programs, is available to meet with representatives of the Pioneer Homes and Alaska State officials to further discuss these options. If you should have any questions, she may be reached at 202-273-8540. A similar letter has been sent to Major General Phillip Oates, Adjutant General/Commissioner and appropriate members of Congress. I look forward to a continued working relationship with you to better meet the needs of Alaska's veterans.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony J. Principi".

Anthony J. Principi

Enclosures

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

This memorandum for the record has been developed in teleconference discussions among Marsha Goodwin, Acting Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care Programs at the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs; James Kohn, Director, Division of Alaska Longevity Programs; and John Taber, Associate Director, Washington, D.C. Office of the Governor of Alaska, during the period of April 1-5, 2002.

The parties to this memorandum agree as follows:

The federal Veterans' Affairs State Home Per Diem Grant program provides financial assistance to veterans in state veterans homes within a framework of federal VA standards and regulations that do not presently allow for VA financial support of Alaska veterans in the proposed Alaska Pioneers' & Veterans' Homes. It is agreed that the VA and the state of Alaska will work cooperatively to seek solutions to the issues that exist, including, if needed, federal legislation which would allow for VA support of veterans in the Alaska Pioneers' & Veterans' Home while preserving the ownership and authority of the state to operate and manage this unique long term care program. We agree that we will seek common ground for developing a potential demonstration that preserves both the character of Alaska's Pioneers' homes and the required standards of care for eligible Veterans.

As we work toward those solutions, we accept as governing principles the following:

Alaska's Pioneers' Homes are designed and managed as long-term assisted living facilities. There is no present intention to expand their role to include skilled nursing functions. The state of Alaska relies on agreements with private nursing homes and public and private hospitals to provide skilled nursing and hospital care as it is needed by Pioneers' Home residents.

Similarly, there is no present intention to expand the role of the Pioneers' homes to include Adult Day Care, because facilities that provide Adult Day Care already exist in most communities where the Pioneers' Homes are located and it would duplicate capacity to add that function to the Pioneers' Homes.

The state of Alaska seeks to ultimately include all six of the existing Pioneers' Homes in the Pioneers' Home/Veterans' Home program and seeks to integrate Pioneers and Veterans to the maximum extent practicable within those facilities.

The state of Alaska seeks to preserve the essence of the Pioneers' Home concept by continuing to use the admission and eligibility standards and cost sharing procedures and

policies that have served the Pioneers' Homes well for 89 years. We agree to work to find solutions to issues that such existing policies may create for veterans who qualify for assistance but do not fit within state admission and eligibility standards.

As we continue the discussions that we intend will lead to the necessary agreements and/or legislation to permit the Veterans Affairs State Home Per Diem Grant Program to operate in Alaska's Pioneers' Homes/Veterans' Homes, we agree to periodically provide information updates to Veterans and Veterans' Affairs officials in Alaska concerning those discussions.

SIGNED:

Marsha Goodwin, Veterans' Affairs

James Kohn, Alaska Longevity Programs

John Taber, Office of the Governor of Alaska

[Fwd: RE: Memorandum for Record]

Subject: [Fwd: RE: Memorandum for Record]

Date: Mon, 08 Apr 2002 11:51:13 -0800

From: John Taber <jrtaber@sso.org>

Organization: Alaska's Governor's Office

To: Jim_Duncan@admin.state.ak.us, Kohn James <james_kohn@admin.state.ak.us>

Here's another copy, just in case.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Memorandum for Record

Date: Fri, 5 Apr 2002 16:45:02 -0500

From: "Goodwin, Marsha E" <marsha.goodwin@hq.med.va.gov>

To: "'John Taber'" <jrtaber@sso.org>, "Goodwin, Marsha

E" <marsha.goodwin@hq.med.va.gov>

CC: Kohn James <james_kohn@admin.state.ak.us>

I think the e-mail concurrence is fine. Look forward to our next conference call meeting. Marsha

-----Original Message-----

From: John Taber [<mailto:jrtaber@sso.org>]

Sent: Friday, April 05, 2002 4:42 PM

To: Goodwin, Marsha E

Cc: Kohn James

Subject: Re: Memorandum for Record

Marsha,

Your changes are fine with us. Thank you again for your review and assistance. Can we consider this memorandum signed, based on our email concurrence in it? We should also circulate a hard copy for signature and I will be happy to initiate that from here.

John

"Goodwin, Marsha E" wrote:

> John - I just made a couple minor changes. See if they are agreeable with
> both of you. Marsha

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: John Taber [<mailto:jrtaber@sso.org>]

> Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2002 6:47 PM

> To: Marsha.Goodwin@hq.med.va.gov; Kohn James

> Subject: Memorandum for Record

>

> Attached is my proposed Memorandum for the Record per our discussions
> today. Please let me know if this meets with your approval and
> agreement. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in developing
> this important understanding and agreement.

>

>

> -----
> Name: Alaska

Pioneer Homes MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD.doc

> Alaska Pioneer Homes MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD.doc Type: Winword
File (application/msword)

>

Encoding: base64

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Fact Sheet

VA State Home Program: The VA State Home Per Diem Grant Program provides Federal payments to States for eligible veterans in State Veterans Homes (SVHs) recognized by VA. In order to receive the grant funds for either construction or per diem payments for nursing home, domiciliary, or adult day health care, the State must apply for the grant and meet VA standards. It is the responsibility of the State to conduct feasibility studies associated with establishing a State Veterans Home. State Veterans Homes are owned and operated by States. VA may recognize an entire facility or a specific area, such as a wing or floor within a larger facility, like a Pioneers Home. Veterans may not be intermingled with other residents of the home. VA recognition ensures that veterans receive consistent levels of care in accordance with VA standards. State nursing home regulations were published in the Federal Register on January 6, 2000. Section 51.20 provides directions for applying for recognition.

The SVH program provides grants to States for up to 65 percent of the costs of the construction or renovation of facilities for nursing home, domiciliary or adult day health care for eligible veterans. The State must provide 35 percent matching funds as a condition of construction grant award. The State may also request that VA recognize an existing facility or a portion of a facility as a State Home, as an alternative to construction, with the condition that the facility meet VA standards. Those standards are further described in the enclosed Question and Answer document. Eligible veterans must be located in a recognized SVH in order for the State to receive per diem payments. By law, these grants cannot be made available to individual veterans.

Should the State of Alaska choose to pursue any of these options for State Home development, VA staff is available to offer technical assistance. Once construction is completed, a local VA Medical Center of Jurisdiction is designated to work with a State Home to ensure that veterans receive the highest quality care. The requirement to satisfactorily meet SVH nursing home standards in order to achieve recognition is essentially the same whether the SVH is newly-constructed or designated as part of an existing facility. However, in the latter case, a specific standard (i.e., intermingling veterans with non-veterans) applies to SVH program integrity. A building housing a facility recognized as a State home for providing nursing home care may only provide nursing home care in the areas of the building recognized as a State home for providing nursing home care (38 CFR Parts 17 et al., 51.210 [u]). In other words, when SVH nursing home care is provided in only a portion of an existing facility, other types of care or programs cannot be conducted in areas specifically designated for the SVH. A recognized SVH would ultimately provide a safe environment for veterans residing in the state of Alaska. An Alaska SVH would ensure veterans receive the necessary medical care,

medications and medical assistive devices to veteran patients as prescribed by VA requirements.

Both local and VA Central Office staff have met with State officials over the past year about opportunities for Federal support. The State is encouraged to continue to meet with VA to seek alternatives, even though the option of dedicating a portion of the Pioneer Homes for veterans may not yet be available. VA looks forward to a continued close working relationship with the State of Alaska to help it meet all Federal grant requirements.

VA Contract Community Nursing Home Program: The Contract Community Nursing Home Program (CNH), established in 1965 is one of three VA-sponsored nursing home program. This program places patients requiring nursing home care in community nursing homes at VA expense. All VA medical facilities have CNH capabilities.

VA contracts with CNH facilities which meet Medicare/Medicaid standards and the most recent edition of the Life Safety Code. The contract allows VA to place a veteran in a CNH when the CNH agrees to accept the patient at the negotiated per diem rate. In FY 2001, the CNH program served an average of 4,000 veterans per day.

Patients who require care in a CNH due to activities of daily living impairments; medical diagnoses and/or the inability of the informal and formal care system to provide care at home or in the community comprise the target population for CNH. The population includes patients in need of rehabilitation, special clinical care, and those with behavioral management problems where nursing home care is needed and appropriate mental health interventions can be provided in the CNH.

**Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Veterans Health Administration (VHA)
State Home Program
FY 2002
Questions and Answers**

1. What is a State home?

The term "State home" means a home established by a State for veterans disabled by age, disease, or otherwise, who by reason of such disability are incapable of earning a living. A State home may provide nursing home care, domiciliary care or hospital care in combination with another level of care. Hospital care may be provided only when the State home also provides domiciliary and/or nursing home care.

2. Can a State home furnish more than one level of care?

Yes. A State home may furnish domiciliary, nursing home and hospital levels of care, as well as adult day health care. A home that furnishes more than one level of care must provide such care in clearly designated areas within the home, so that the levels of care are not intermingled.

3. Who establishes a State home?

The establishment, location, control and administration of a State home is the responsibility of the State, which it serves.

4. How is a State home established?

Generally, veterans' service organizations and interested State officials encourage the State legislature to enact legislation for establishment of a State veterans home and to appropriate funds for its construction and operation. States must assure that state operational funds are available to support quality of care in each level of care provided.

5. What assistance from VA is available in the establishment of a State home?

a. VA will provide guidance and consult with representatives of the State to ensure that the facility will meet regulations for VA recognition and Federal aid payments under provision of Title 38 USC 1741.

b. VA cannot participate in the cost of land.

6. Can a building in an existing State facility be approved as a State home?

A building or buildings in an existing facility may qualify, provided that they are established and operated as a separate entity (State home). It is permissible to purchase services, i.e., dietetic, engineering, laundry, and professional care from an existing facility. Purchased or contract services must meet the standards for each level of care.

7. Can a facility providing only hospital care recognized by VA as a State home?

No. A State home must provide domiciliary and/or nursing home care for veterans.

8. What are the veteran admission requirements to a State home?

a. Admission requirements are determined by the State.

b. Veteran and non-veteran eligibility requirements are provided in laws and regulations.

c. As a condition of receiving per diem payments, the State must submit two forms to the VA medical center of jurisdiction for each veteran as follows: a) VA Form 10-10EZ, "Application for Health Benefits," and b) VA Form 10-10SH, "State Home Program Application for Care, Medical Certification."

d. Veteran eligibility for per diem payments is determined and authorized by the VA medical center of jurisdiction. A VA physician reviews and authorizes the level of care. By using social security numbers, VA will track per diem payments for each eligible veteran.

9. How does VA assure Congress that State Veterans homes provide quality care?

The Under Secretary for Health assigns a VA medical center of jurisdiction for each State Veterans Home (SVH). Once assigned, the medical center director appoints an interdisciplinary team from among the staff. This team is charged with the ongoing monitoring of quality. The latter includes conducting an initial recognition survey, performing annual inspections, and communicating with the SVH about all quality concerns that arise between scheduled reviews. For each facility recognized as a SVH, the Director of the VA medical center of jurisdiction annually certifies whether the facility management met or did not meet the standards of the SVH Program. The State home is required to meet minimum standards in order to continue to receive per diem payments.

10. Does a State hospital or State nursing home require a State license?

Yes, the hospital facility shall be licensed as a long-term or acute care hospital by the State, and shall comply with Federal, State and local laws, rules and regulations for hospital care.

The nursing home facility shall be licensed as a skilled nursing home by the State and shall comply with Federal, State and local laws, rules and regulations for skilled nursing home care.

11. What Federal funds are available to a State for the operation of a State home?

a. Domiciliary Care -- up to one-half of the cost of care, not to exceed \$24.40 per day (FY 2002 rate).

b. Nursing Home Care -- up to one-half of the cost of care, not to exceed \$53.17 per day (FY 2002 rate).

c. Hospital Care -- up to one-half of the cost of care, not to exceed \$53.17 per day (FY 2002 rate).

d. Adult Day Health Care -- up to one-half of the cost of care, not to exceed \$34.64 per day (FY 2002 rate).

e. At the time of the construction grant award, a State is required to sign a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs that requires the State to provide financial support for the entire cost of maintenance and operation of a State Veterans Home.

12. Can the State assess or charge veterans for the cost of their care?

Yes. The State-operated facility may establish a maintenance charge system and collect from the pension, compensation, or other income of veterans. This does not remove the State's responsibility for appropriating operating funds that will keep the home in compliance with VA standards.

13. Is there a limit on the amount collected from veterans?

No. However, this does not remove the State's responsibility for appropriating operational funds that will support the cost of maintenance of the building and operation of the home.

14. If a veteran in a State home requires hospitalization in a VA facility, can VA continue per diem payments?

No. VA per diem payments are not paid if a veteran in a State home is transferred to a VA medical center for hospital care or to a non-VA hospital at VA expense. However, VA per diem payments are continued up to 96 hours for a veteran transferred from a State home to a hospital at non-VA expense.

15. Can VA participate with States in the construction or acquisition of State home facilities?

a. Yes. Under Title 38 USC 8131-8137, VA is authorized to participate in up to 65 percent of the cost of acquisition and/or construction of new domiciliary or nursing home buildings, and/or the expansion, remodeling, or alteration of existing domiciliary, nursing or adult day health care buildings, provided VA standards and regulations are met. Acquisition and/or renovation costs of an existing building may not exceed the cost of construction of an equivalent new facility.

b. Such costs may include architect fees, supervision, inspection, cost of final audit, and initial equipment, which is not included in the construction contract and may not exceed 10 percent of the cost of construction.

c. VA may not participate in projects for maintenance and repair except, as they are involved inextricably in remodeling projects.

16. Can VA reimburse a State for the Federal share of completed construction projects? What are the conditions?

Yes, provided VA receives an initial application and approves all bid documents (drawings and specifications) before construction begins or early in the construction phase.

17. How can a State obtain VA regulations, instructions and application forms for construction projects?

Write to: Acting Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended
Care Strategic Healthcare Group (114)
Veterans Health Administration
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Other sources for obtaining current updates of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR):

- (1) On the Internet at <http://www.gpo.gov>; or
- (2) Directly from the United States Government Bookstore:

1510 H Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20005
Tel. (202) 653-5075; FAX (202) 376-5055

18. Is there a limit on the number of beds that can be constructed with VA participation?

Yes. The total nursing home and domiciliary care beds may not exceed the limits established in 38CFR Part 59.

19. Who is responsible for construction projects?

The State is primarily responsible.

The State employs an architect and submits plans for review and approval by VA prior to awarding the contract. After a construction grant is awarded and during construction, which is supervised by the State, reimbursement claims may be submitted to VA for payment based on incurred costs.

20. May other than veterans occupy facilities constructed under Title 38 USC 8131-8137?

Yes. Twenty-five percent of the bed occupants at any one time may be veteran-related family members, i.e., spouses, surviving spouses, and/or Gold Star parents who are not entitled to payment of VA aid. When a State home accepts grant assistance for a construction project, 75 percent of the bed occupants at the facility must be veterans.

21. How are construction grants awarded?

VA establishes a priority list of applications as of August 15 each year for funding during the next fiscal year beginning October 1. After the appropriation for the construction grant program is approved, projects are funded in the order of priority on the list until Federal funds are spent.

22. What is the first priority on the August 15 list?

First priority is accorded to feasible applications for which States have provided sufficient State funds so that the project may proceed upon award of the grant without further State action being required to make such funds available. The first priority is further prioritized as (1) remedies for life/safety; (2) States without a construction grant for a nursing home; (3) great need for beds in a State; (4) renovation other than (1) above; (5) significant need for beds in a State; and (6) limited need for beds in a State.

23. Is there a deadline for consideration for the August 15 priority list?

Yes. The initial application must be received by April 15. Application must be received by August 15.

24. What are sufficient funds for purposes of being ranked in priority one? Are there other requirements for being ranked in priority one?

"Sufficient" funds are the State's 35 percent matching share. These funds must be available, and an authorized State official must certify that these funds are available and how long the funds will remain available. A copy of the approved legislation appropriating the funds for the specific project must accompany the certification.

25. What are the other priority categories?

Second priority is accorded to States that have not authorized the State's 35 percent matching share. The second priority is further prioritized as (1) remedies for life/safety; (2) States without a construction grant for a nursing home; (3) great need for beds in a State; (4) renovation other than (1) above; (5) significant need for beds in a State; and (6) limited need for beds in a State.

26. Where can I find the Federal regulations for the priority system?

Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 59 Grants to States for Construction or Acquisition of State Homes. The latest updated versions are available on the Internet at <http://www.gpo.gov>.

27. Is the State required to employ a State employee when the home is under a contractual agreement for daily operations?

Yes. When a State home is operated and staffed under a contractual agreement between a State agency that has jurisdiction over the home and an independent contractor, the oversight of the daily operations of the State Veterans Home is to be performed by a full-time, on-site State project officer (also referred to as a full-time on-site State representative). Further information concerning the role of this official is available upon request.

28. Where are State Home Program forms located on the web?

Eventually, all State Home Program forms are expected to be on the web. The web address is as follows: <http://vaww.va.gov/forms/medical/searchlist.asp>.

- VA Form 10-0388 – Documents and Information Required for State Home Construction and Acquisition Grants – Initial Application
- VA Form 10-0392 – State Home Construction Grant Program Space Program Analysis – Nursing Home and Domiciliary
- VA Form 10-0392a – State Home Construction Grant Program Space Program Analysis – Adult Day Health Care
- VA Form 10-0388a – Additional Documents and Information Required for State Home Construction and Acquisition Grants – Application
- VA Form 10-0148b – Certification of State Matching Funds to Qualify for Group 1 on the Priority List
- VA Form 10-0148c – Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary Covered Transactions
- VA Form 10-0388 – Documents and Information Required for State Home Construction and Acquisition Grants – Initial Application
- VA Form 10-0143 – Department of Veterans Affairs Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace for Grantees Other Than Individuals
- VA Form 10-0144 – Certification Regarding Lobbying
- VA Form 10-0148d – Certification of Compliance with Federal Requirements – State Home Construction Grant
- VA Form 10-5348 – Memorandum of Agreement – Sample

- VA Form 10-0148d – Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Lower Tier Covered Transactions (to be signed by Contractor(s))
- VA Form 10-0388b – Documents/Certifications Required for State Home Construction and Acquisition Grants – Post-Grant Requirements
- VA Form 10-10EZ – Application for Benefits
- VA Form 10-10SH – State Home Program Application for Care, Medical Certification
- VA Form 10-5588 – State Home Report and Statement of Federal Aid Claimed
- VA Form 10-3567 – State Home Program Staffing Profile
- VA Form 10-0143A – Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- VA Form 10-144A – Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Equal Opportunity Laws
- VA Form 10-0143 – Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace
- VA Form 10-0144 – Certification Regarding Lobbying

Bill History/Action Display



BILL: SB 55

SHORT TITLE: PIONEERS' AND VETERANS'
HOME/ADVISORY BD

BILL VERSION:

SPONSOR(S): RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

CURRENT STATUS: (S) HES

STATUS DATE: 04/19/02

THEN FIN

HEARING: (S) HES Apr 29 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

Committee Hearing History

TITLE: "An Act changing the name of the Alaska Pioneers' Home to the Alaska Pioneers' and Veterans' Home and of the Alaska Pioneers' Homes Advisory Board to the Alaska Pioneers' and Veterans' Home Advisory Board; relating to services for veterans in the home; relating to the advisory board for the home; making other amendments to the statutes relating to the home; making conforming amendments to other statutes; and providing for an effective date."

[Full Text](#)
[Fiscal Notes](#)

Bill History

Jrn-Date	Jrn-Page	Action
01/23/01	0148	(S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
01/23/01	0148	(S) STA, HES, FIN
01/23/01	0149	(S) FN1: ZERO(ADM)
01/23/01	0149	(S) GOVERNOR'S TRANSMITTAL LETTER
02/08/01	Text	(S) STA AT 3:30 PM BELTZ 211
02/08/01	Text	(S) Heard & Held
02/08/01	Text	(S) MINUTE(STA)
05/05/01	Text	(S) MINUTE(STA)
05/05/01	Text	(S) STA AT 1:15 PM BELTZ 211
05/05/01	Text	(S) Heard & Held -- Time Change --
04/18/02	Text	(S) STA AT 3:30 PM BELTZ 211
04/18/02	Text	(S) Moved CS(STA) Out of Committee
04/19/02	2857	(S) STA RPT CS 1DP 2NR NEW TITLE
04/19/02	2857	(S) NR: THERRIAULT, STEVENS;
04/19/02	2857	(S) DP: DAVIS
04/19/02	2857	(S) FN2: (ADM); FN3: (ADM)
04/19/02	2857	(S) REFERRED TO HEALTH, ED & SOCIAL SVCS
04/29/02	Text	(S) HES AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

Similar Subject Match or Exact Subject Match

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

FUNDS

GRANTS

PIONEERS' HOMES