



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Roy Cooper
GOVERNOR

Larry D. Hall
SECRETARY

June 26, 2017

Dear Governor Cooper:

The 2017 Appropriations Act negatively impacts veterans in our state. Our review of this final budget confirms the following negative impact to those who served our country:

1. A lack of \$200,000 in funding for operating the state veterans' cemetery in Goldsboro.
 - The lack of the \$200,000 in funding for operating the state veterans' cemetery deleted the five (5) required positions.
 - The lack of the \$200,000 in funding for operating the state veterans' cemetery created a \$5 million liability to the Federal Grant program.
 - The lack of the \$200,000 in funding for operating the state veterans' cemetery created a \$5 million liability to the same Federal Grant program in which we use for cemetery expansion so it also impairs our future ability to use the program.
2. Denial of \$170,000 for funding of final full-time position and to establish a salary reserve. As a new Department, we did not have carry forward funding for this.
3. Denial of \$280,000 for operating funds. As a new Department, we do not have any operating funding for the Military Affairs division. We have tried to use funds from the Veterans' Affairs division but that impairs operations in that division.
4. Denial of funding to help expand the burial capacity for two cemeteries. We requested funding to help expand two state cemeteries that are expected to reach capacity in the next few years.

Although the amounts are small, they are leveraged into bigger returns on the expended resources.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Respectfully yours,

Larry D. Hall, Secretary
N.C. Department of Military and Veterans Affairs