

- FY 2002 appropriations represent a 5.9% increase over actual FY 2001 expenditures
- GRF accounts for 54.8% of the Ohio Veterans' Home total budget

## Ohio Veterans' Home

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### ROLE

In 1886, the General Assembly, established the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, located on a 99-acre campus in Sandusky. The Home was renamed the Ohio Veterans' Home in 1975. Currently, 95 similar veterans' homes operate in 43 other states. Since its opening in 1888, over 50,000 veterans have lived at the home. To be eligible for admission to the Veterans' Home, a veteran must have served during wartime, been honorably discharged, and have been a resident of Ohio for five consecutive years prior to admission.

Currently, OVH provides long-term care to eligible Ohio veterans in three different settings. The 293-bed Veterans Hall domiciliary provides independence and freedom comparable to community living for residents able to care for themselves. Currently, 236 of the 293 beds in the domiciliary are occupied. A second level of care, referred to as "dom-plus", offers an intermediate level of care for 42 residents. These "dom-plus" residents are located in a separate wing of Veterans Hall. The third level of care, Secrest-Giffin nursing home, adjoins the Veterans Hall, and provides a greater level of care for 425 residents who require more assistance with daily activities and those who require around-the-clock medical care.

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2002	2003	2002	2003	
616	\$35.9 million	\$37.5 million	\$19.6 million	\$20.6 million	Am. Sub. H.B. 94

### OVERVIEW

Am. Sub. H.B. 94 of the 124<sup>th</sup> General Assembly appropriates \$73.4 million over the fiscal year 2002-2003 biennium to the Ohio Veteran's Home. At first glance, the Veterans' Home's budget for fiscal year 2002 appears to have increased 5.9 percent over fiscal year 2001 actual expenditures, growing from \$33.9 million to \$35.9 million. However, a closer analysis reveals that \$480,000 of these funds will be used to oversee the opening of the Georgetown Veterans' Home. Excluding these funds for the new facility, the Veterans' Home's fiscal year 2002 appropriations are 4.3 percent over previous year spending. The appropriation increase will allow the Veterans' Home to maintain current service levels throughout the fiscal year 2002-2003 biennium.

H.B. 770 of the 122<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly identified the need for an additional state veterans' home. Efforts are underway to build a second, state-operated veterans home in Georgetown, Ohio. Most OVH residents come from Erie County and several surrounding counties. Only a few residents come from south

of Interstate 70. Am. Sub. HB 283 provided a \$4,200,000 appropriation, representing the State's share of the cost of construction for the second veterans' home. In January 2001, the federal VA provided a formal grant award letter for 65 percent of the cost of construction of the new facility. According to an OVH officer, while it is certain that the construction phase of the project will be completed sometime during fiscal year 2003, it is not possible at this time to determine exactly when the facility will be fully operational. Therefore, operating costs for the new facility are not included in the FYs 2002-2003 budget.

## BUDGET ISSUES

### *SOURCE OF REVENUES*

The largest source of revenue for OVH is the General Revenue Fund (GRF). The next largest source of revenue is federal grant moneys. GRF appropriations have decreased approximately 21.7 percent over the past eight years, whereas federal grants have increased approximately 18.5 percent and resident assessment fees have increased approximately 31 percent (federal and resident source of revenue only available through FY 2001).


Veterans Source of Revenue by Percentage of Total				
Year	State GRF	Federal	Resident	Rotary Fund (SSR 484)
1995	67.06	21.54	11.40	N/A
1996	61.76	24.94	13.30	N/A
1997	60.46	25.07	14.46	N/A
1998	58.80	26.51	14.68	N/A
1999	59.27	24.98	15.75	N/A
2000	58.68	25.26	15.75	.31
2001	58.48	25.52	14.92	1.08
2002	54.60	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003	55.09	N/A	N/A	N/A

### **Average Daily Costs Continue to Climb**

Average daily costs for residents in the Secrest-Giffin nursing home continue to climb. The Secrest-Giffin Nursing Home provides an environment for those residents requiring more assistance with the activities of daily living. Currently, the nursing home is filled to capacity and has an extensive waiting list of disabled veterans. Unlike other nursing homes the cost of care at the Veterans' Home includes all ancillary services, as well as physician, dental, and optometric care. The average daily costs are summarized in the table below:

AVERAGE DAILY COST OF CARE				
Fiscal Year	Veterans Hall Domiciliary	Percent Change	Secrest-Giffin Nursing Home	Percent Change
1996	\$63.79	N/A	\$147.80	N/A
1997	\$63.09	(1.1)	\$150.91	2.1
1998	\$64.82	2.7	\$156.36	3.6
1999	\$63.57	(1.9)	\$159.61	2.1

### *Ohio Veterans' Home Staffing Levels:*

OVH staffing levels have increased 22.5 percent between 1998 and 2003. Two reasons account for this staff increase: in FY 1999, an additional nursing home unit was opened and additional staff were added to meet the Department of Health audit requirements, and in FY 2000, the 42-bed "dom-plus" unit was opened in the Veterans Hall, which required additional staff. 

Ohio Veterans' Home Staffing Levels*						
Functional Area	1998	1999	2000	2001	Estimated	
					2002	2003
Administration	38	41	23	23	25	25
Secrest-Giffin Nursing Home	392.5	461	434	434	435	435
Veterans Hall Domiciliary	35.5	38.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5
Services	N/A	N/A	63	63	67	67
Veterans Hall of Fame	N/A	1	1	1	1	1
Maintenance	37	37	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>578.5</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>616</b>

\*Staff numbers reflect all positions, including vacancies.

**FY 2002 - 2003 Final Appropriation Amounts**

**All Fund Groups**

<i>Line Item Detail by Agency</i>			<i>FY 1999:</i>	<i>FY 2000:</i>	<i>FY 2001:</i>	<i>FY 2002 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2001 to 2002:</i>	<i>FY 2003 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2002 to 2003:</i>
<b>Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill</b>			<b>Version: Enacted</b>						
<b>OVH Ohio Veterans' Home</b>									
GRF	430-100	Personal Services	\$ 12,168,231	\$ 13,832,625	\$13,934,450	\$ 14,499,975	4.06%	\$ 15,434,831	6.45%
GRF	430-200	Maintenance	\$ 4,877,159	\$ 5,085,709	\$5,297,387	\$ 5,099,666	-3.73%	\$ 5,199,159	1.95%
<b>General Revenue Fund Total</b>			<b>\$ 17,045,390</b>	<b>\$ 18,918,334</b>	<b>\$ 19,231,837</b>	<b>\$ 19,599,641</b>	<b>1.91%</b>	<b>\$ 20,633,990</b>	<b>5.28%</b>
3L2	430-601	Federal Grants	\$ 6,620,214	\$ 8,212,120	\$9,585,358	\$ 9,823,259	2.48%	\$ 10,059,342	2.40%
319	430-732	Renovate Secrest Bath Areas	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	N/A
319	430-734	Secrest Air Conditioning	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	N/A
319	430-746	Community Based Outreach Clinic	\$ 179,815	\$ 0		\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	N/A
319	430-747	Kitchen Etal	\$ 637,166	\$ 0		\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	N/A
<b>Federal Special Revenue Fund Group Total</b>			<b>\$ 7,437,195</b>	<b>\$ 8,212,120</b>	<b>\$ 9,585,358</b>	<b>\$ 9,823,259</b>	<b>2.48%</b>	<b>\$ 10,059,342</b>	<b>2.40%</b>
4E2	430-602	Veterans Home Operating	\$ 3,838,932	\$ 4,386,557	\$4,272,087	\$ 5,288,525	23.79%	\$ 5,583,806	5.58%
484	430-603	Rental and Service Revenue	\$ 88,778	\$ 111,013	\$354,273	\$ 457,060	29.01%	\$ 509,737	11.53%
604	430-604	Veterans Home Improvement	\$ 694,386	\$ 776,960	\$500,271	\$ 725,699	45.06%	\$ 670,096	-7.66%
<b>State Special Revenue Fund Group Total</b>			<b>\$ 4,622,096</b>	<b>\$ 5,274,530</b>	<b>\$ 5,126,631</b>	<b>\$ 6,471,284</b>	<b>26.23%</b>	<b>\$ 6,763,639</b>	<b>4.52%</b>
<b>Ohio Veterans' Home Total</b>			<b>\$ 29,104,681</b>	<b>\$ 32,404,984</b>	<b>\$ 33,943,825</b>	<b>\$ 35,894,184</b>	<b>5.75%</b>	<b>\$ 37,456,971</b>	<b>4.35%</b>