

# **Injured Veterans Grant Program Bill**

## **Senate File 2312**

*As amended by Senate Appropriations  
Committee Amendment S-5074*

Last Action:

**Senate Appropriations  
Committee**

March 15, 2006

### **Executive Summary Only**

**An Act providing grants on behalf of veterans seriously injured in a combat zone, providing an income tax exclusion, and including an effective date and retroactive applicability provision.**

**Fiscal Services Division  
Legislative Services Agency**

#### **NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)**

Available on line at <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp>

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AMENDMENT S-5074**

### **BILL AS PASSED BY SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### **INCOME TAX EXCLUSION FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **EFFECTIVE DATES**

## **SENATE FILE 2312 AS AMENDED BY S-5074 INJURED VETERANS GRANT PROGRAM BILL**

- Changes the name of the Veterans Appreciation Program to the Injured Veterans Grant Program.
- Makes the following changes to the Grant Program:
  - Eliminates the need for “hardship.”
  - Specifies the grant is for financial assistance to the veteran so that family members may be with the veteran during recovery from an injury.
  - Specifies the grant maximum is \$10,000 and is paid in increments of \$2,500 at 30-day intervals when the presence or assistance of family members is necessary.
  - Adds requirements for proof of medical care and rehabilitative services.
  - Specifies that veterans injured after September 11, 2001, but prior to the effective date of the Bill, are eligible for repayment.
- Establishes a Veterans Appreciation Program within the Department of Veterans Affairs. Funds appropriated to the Department are for one-time hardship grants up to \$10,000 for seriously injured veterans sustaining a combat-related injury while serving in a combat zone or hazardous duty pay zone since September 11, 2001. The Department is required to adopt rules for the distribution of the grants.
- Grants received under this Program are excluded from the veteran’s net income for purposes of taxation.
- The fiscal impact of the tax exclusion is estimated to be minimal.
- A General Fund appropriation of \$1.0 million was provided for the grants in HF 2080 (Veterans FY 2006 Supplemental Appropriations Act). House File 2080 was approved by the General Assembly on January 18, 2006, and signed by the Governor on January 23, 2006.
- The Bill applies retroactively to veterans seriously injured after September 11, 2001. The income tax exclusion portion of the Bill takes effect upon enactment and is applicable to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2006.