**Background**

**Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services**

The Arizona Department of Veterans Services (Department) was established to assist veterans and their families and dependants in presenting, providing and establishing claims, privileges, rights and benefits that veterans have under federal, state or local law.

The Department may act as guardian or conservator of an incapacitated veteran, the incapacitated spouse of a veteran or minor child of a veteran. The Department may also act in all fiduciary matters of a veteran and as the personal representative of the estate of a deceased veteran.

The Department is also required to provide long-term care services and skilled nursing care to veterans and their spouses in a veteran’s home, which must be operated and maintained as a self-sustaining facility.

**State Veterans’ Home**

Established in 1995, the Arizona State Veterans’ Home (Home) is a 200-bed facility located at 4141 North Third Street in Phoenix. The Home is funded by the State Home for Veterans’ Trust Fund, which consists of monies from private insurance, Veterans’ Administration per diem, Medicaid and Medicare. As a result of deficiencies found within the Home in 2007, the Legislature has appropriated state General Fund monies for the Home. In FY 2008-2009, the Home received an appropriation of $2,855,000 in state General Fund monies.

**Fiscal Information**

The FY 2008-2009 budget provides the Department of Veterans’ Services $16,588,800 and 247 FTEs. These amounts consist of:

1) State General Fund
   $2,855,000

2) State Home for Veterans’ Trust Fund
   $13,733,8000
Attachments

Excerpt from the JLBC Fiscal Year 2009 Appropriations Report

Prepared by Senate Research
February 3, 2009
BB/jas