
DIGEST

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HB 116 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Egan

Abstract: Authorizes expenditures of the La. Military Family Assistance Fund to include payment for burial fees and costs for indigent veteran burials or their spouses.

Present law provides that money in the La. Military Family Assistance Fund shall be used solely for the following purposes:

- (1) To pay need-based claims of family members of activated military personnel or honorably discharged military personnel as authorized by the La. Military Family Assistance Board in the manner provided for in R.S. 46:123.
- (2) To provide for state administration of the program provided for in present law as determined by the board, not to exceed 5% of the total amount deposited into the fund each fiscal year.
- (3) To provide for the third party administrator's expenses in administration of the program provided for in present law, which shall not exceed 5% of the total amount deposited into the fund each fiscal year.
- (4) To pay transportation and other related costs of activated military personnel as authorized by the La. Military Family Assistance Board.
- (5) To conduct outreach activities for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- (6) To pay for educational benefits for children, spouses, and surviving spouses of veterans in accordance with R.S. 29:288.

Proposed law retains present law and further authorizes money in the fund for payment for burial fees and costs for deceased indigent veterans or their spouses and for payment of sums necessary for expenses of eligible beneficiaries under present law.

Proposed law provides for annual grants to be issued by the La. Military Family Assistance Board. Limits the grants to \$10,000 per year. Further sets requirements for applications, reports, repayments and audits by the legislative auditor.

(Adds R.S. 46:122(B)(7) and (8) and (C))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Provide that payment for burial fees and costs may be paid for the spouses of deceased indigent veterans.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Provide for the La. Military Family Assistance Board to issue annual grants in amounts limited to \$10,000.
2. Provide for application requirements for the grants, report requirements, repayment terms, and authority for audits by the legislative auditor.