

# **State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Veterans' Services Component Budget Summary**

**Component: Veterans' Services**

**Contribution to Department's Mission**

Develop and sustain a comprehensive statewide Veterans' Advocacy program and administration of State Veteran grant programs.

**Core Services**

- Veteran Service Office Grant Administration
- Veteran Memorial Grant Administration
- Veteran Benefits Advocate
- Veteran Health Care Advocate
- State Veteran Home Support
- Alaska State Approving Agency for Veterans' Educational Courses or Programs

End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p><b>A: Veterans are supported in pursuit of benefits earned.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Benefits, in dollars, recovered for veterans (does not include education).</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Dollars recovered (does not include education).</p>	<p><b>A1: Communicate and provide awareness of veterans programs.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Increase number of known advocacy programs and contacts available.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Number of new advocacy programs and contacts added.</p> <p><u>Target #2:</u> Increase veterans knowledge of programs offered.</p> <p><u>Measure #2:</u> Number of veterans served.</p>
End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p><b>B: Veterans have access to quality education.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Veterans are utilizing benefits for education under the GI Bill in the State of Alaska.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Average monthly number of veterans registered in approved educational facilities.</p> <p><u>Target #2:</u> Veteran benefits are increasing for education under the GI Bill.</p> <p><u>Measure #2:</u> Dollars provided to veterans for GI Bill benefits.</p>	<p><b>B1: Enhance the quality of education available to veterans.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Increase onsite inspections of facilities for GI Bill eligibility.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Number of onsite inspections per year.</p> <p><u>Target #2:</u> Increase training/technical assistance to facilities in the approving and renewal process.</p> <p><u>Measure #2:</u> Number of training/technical assistance contacts made for the application and renewal process per year.</p> <p><u>Target #3:</u> Review active facilities each year for compliance.</p> <p><u>Measure #3:</u> Number of facilities reviewed each year for compliance.</p> <p><u>Target #4:</u> Increase program approval actions that lead to the award of a credential such as a certificate, diploma or degree.</p> <p><u>Measure #4:</u> Number of program approval actions that</p>

lead to a recognized credential.

### Major Activities to Advance Strategies

- Visit Senior Centers
- Coordinate Veterans Memorial Endowment Fund Grant applications with Veterans Advisory Council
- Coordinate Governor's Veterans Advocacy Award applications with Commissioner and Governor's Office
- Coordinate Veterans Homes
- Conduct Veterans Home briefings and meetings
- Administer Veterans Memorial Endowment Fund grants
- Administer Veteran Service Officer grants
- Approve educational institutions for Veterans
- Participation in Operation Stand Down
- Participate in Veteran organization conventions

### FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

**FY2008 Component Budget: \$913,000**

**Personnel:**

Full time	2
Part time	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

### Performance Measure Detail

#### A: Result - Veterans are supported in pursuit of benefits earned.

**Target #1:** Benefits, in dollars, recovered for veterans (does not include education).

**Measure #1:** Dollars recovered (does not include education).



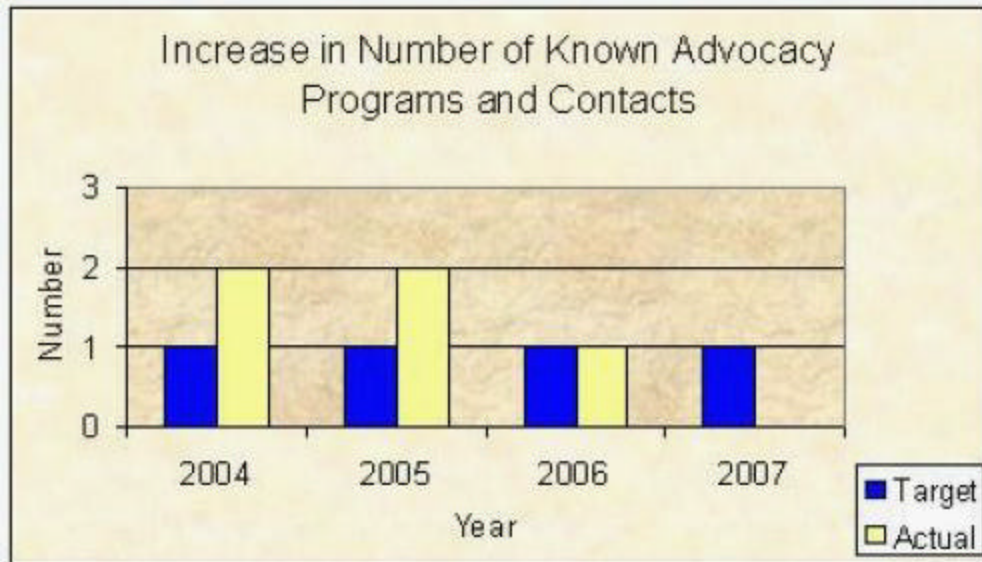
**Analysis of results and challenges:** The Alaska Veterans Services Office is committed to helping veterans become more aware of the benefits available. In 2006, the office assisted veterans in dollar recovery of \$22,381,384.

By identifying advocacy programs, contacts and increasing veterans' knowledge of programs offered, the agency has been able to greatly assist veterans in the pursuit of benefits earned.

**A1: Strategy - Communicate and provide awareness of veterans programs.**

**Target #1:** Increase number of known advocacy programs and contacts available.

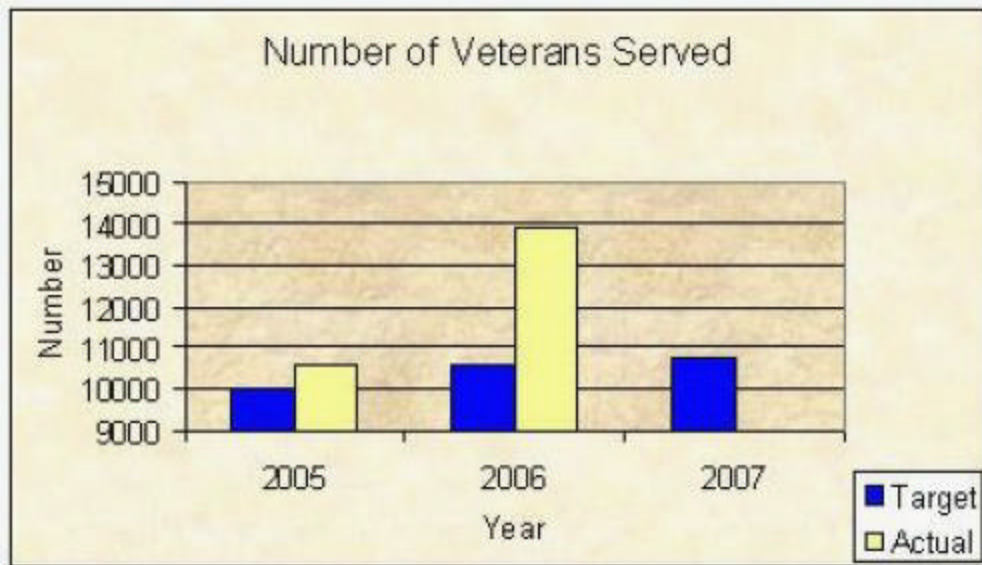
**Measure #1:** Number of new advocacy programs and contacts added.



**Analysis of results and challenges:** The Alaska Veterans Service Office is committed to helping veterans become more aware of the benefits available. In FY04 and FY05, the office has exceeded the targets established for adding new advocacy programs and contact information.

**Target #2:** Increase veterans knowledge of programs offered.

**Measure #2:** Number of veterans served.

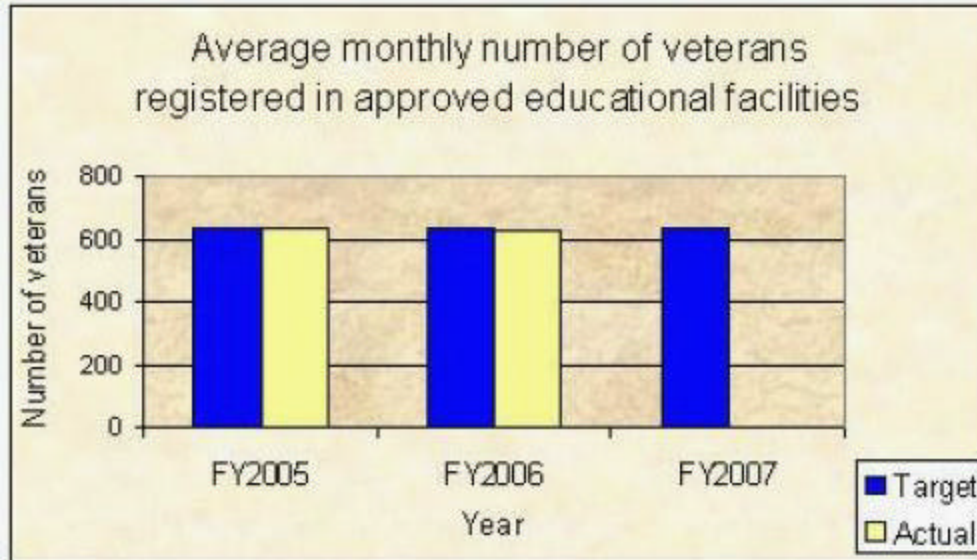


**Analysis of results and challenges:** The Alaska Veterans Services Office is committed to helping veterans become more aware of the benefits available. In 2005, over 10,600 veterans were assisted by the office in the areas of out-patient applications, appeals, power of attorney documents, claims filed, and cases reviewed.

**B: Result - Veterans have access to quality education.**

**Target #1:** Veterans are utilizing benefits for education under the GI Bill in the State of Alaska.

**Measure #1:** Average monthly number of veterans registered in approved educational facilities.

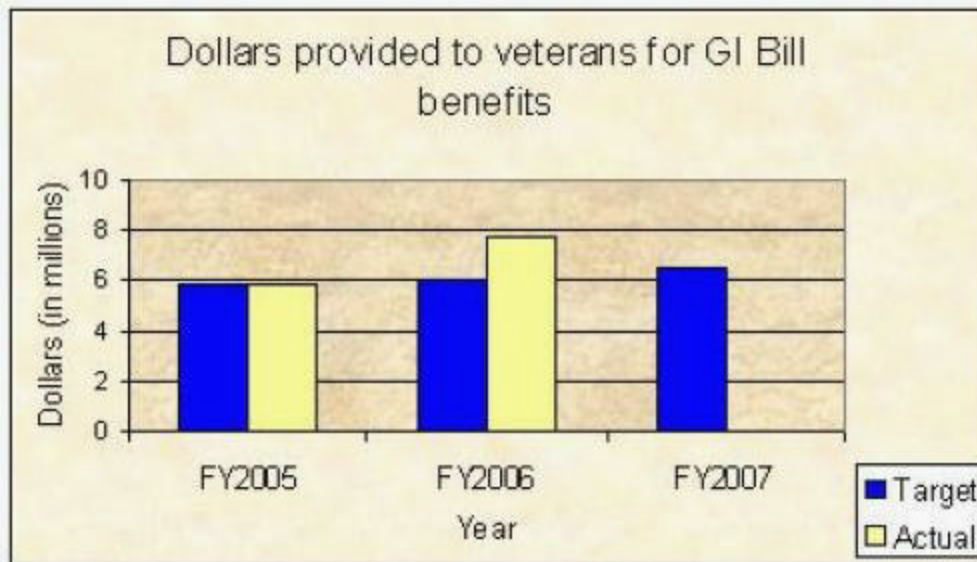


**Analysis of results and challenges:** This is a new measurement for the division.

In FY2006, an average of over 600 veterans reported being registered in approved educational facilities on a monthly basis. Veterans are utilizing their benefits to better themselves, gain education, training and experience.

**Target #2:** Veteran benefits are increasing for education under the GI Bill.

**Measure #2:** Dollars provided to veterans for GI Bill benefits.



**Analysis of results and challenges:** In FY2006, the State Veterans' Educational Approving Office was brought into the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. We have conducted onsite inspections and visits to approved facilities, new facilities, provided technical assistance and compliance surveys at the request of the Veterans Administration. Additionally, we have reviewed facilities for compliance, additional programs, and approved programs that lead to recognized credentials.

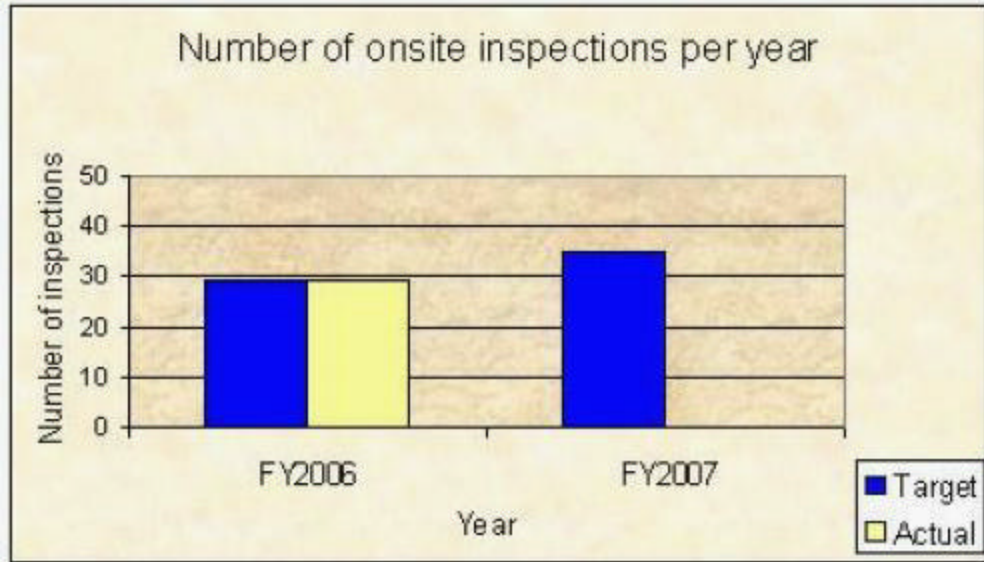
These activities all lead to Veterans receiving education benefits under the GI Bill. In FY2006, Veterans were

provided just under \$8 million dollars in benefits.

**B1: Strategy - Enhance the quality of education available to veterans.**

**Target #1:** Increase onsite inspections of facilities for GI Bill eligibility.

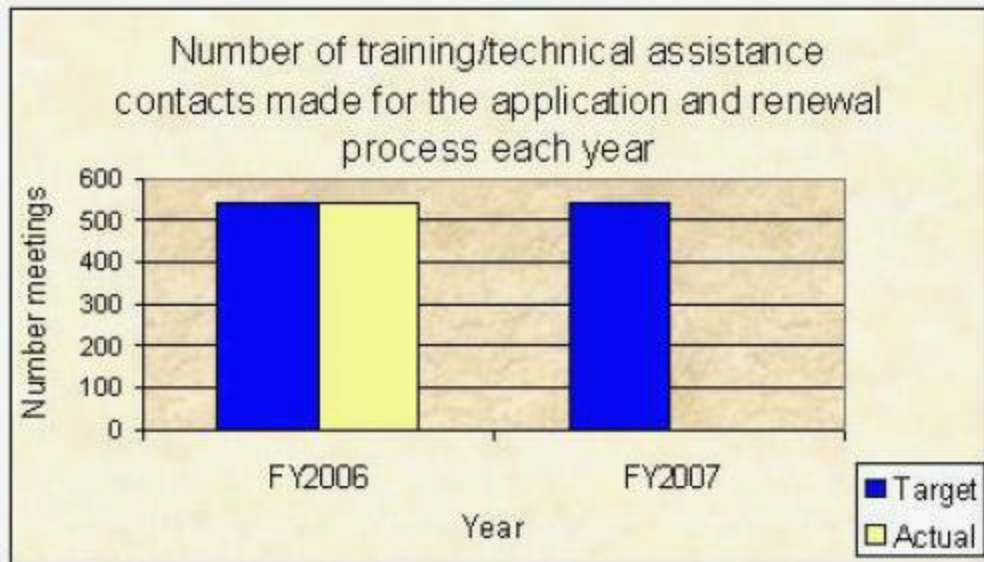
**Measure #1:** Number of onsite inspections per year.



**Analysis of results and challenges:** Onsite inspections/visits include previously approved facilities; new facilities requesting approval; technical assistance visits; compliance survey visits at the request of the Veterans Administration.

**Target #2:** Increase training/technical assistance to facilities in the approving and renewal process.

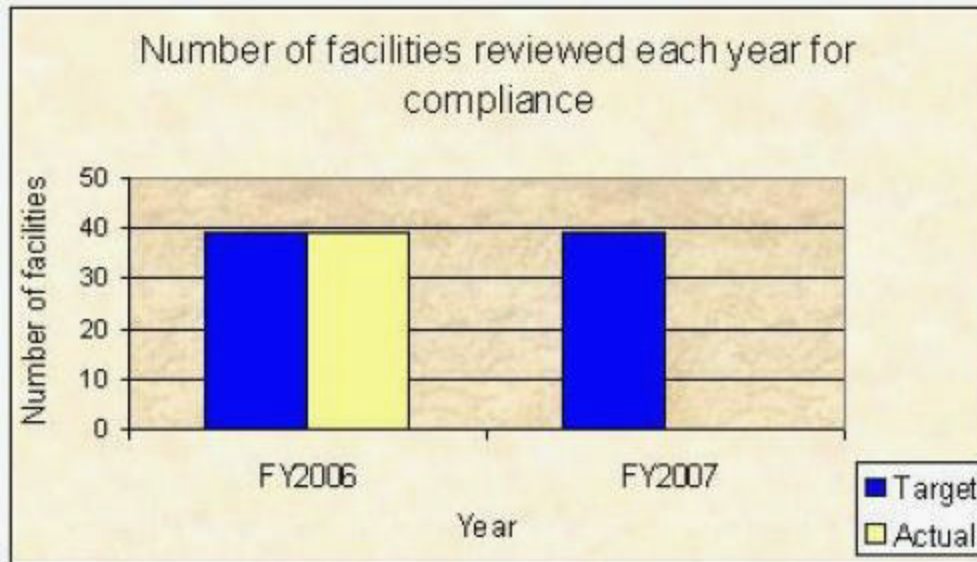
**Measure #2:** Number of training/technical assistance contacts made for the application and renewal process per year.



**Analysis of results and challenges:** Technical assistance includes any interaction designed to assist an individual, school, or training site personnel with any portion of the approval function.

**Target #3:** Review active facilities each year for compliance.

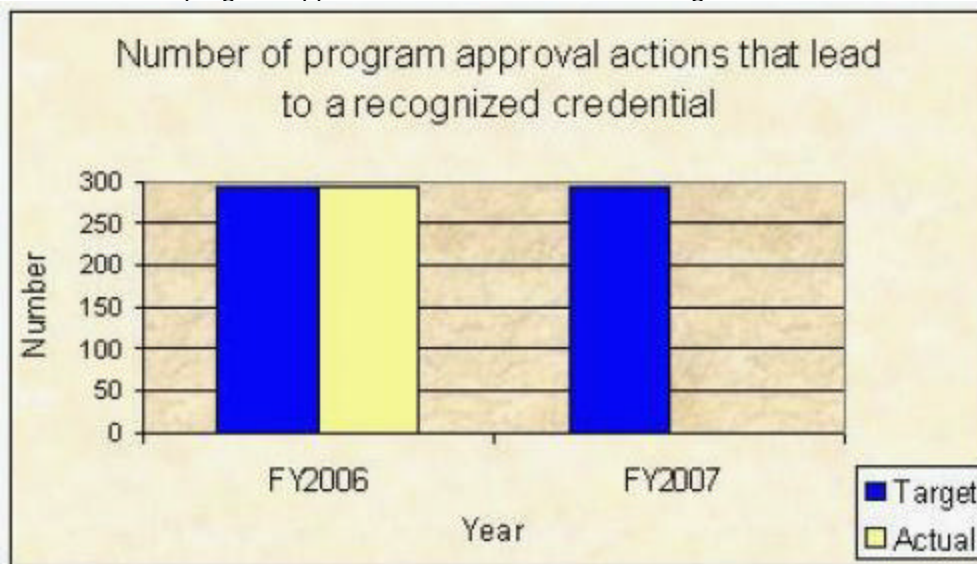
**Measure #3:** Number of facilities reviewed each year for compliance.



**Analysis of results and challenges:** Includes actions taken to assess program and policy information contained in facilities; publications; contents of a supplement or an addendum to facilities publications; revision to a policy or a practice; or any actions that substantiate the continuation of an existing approval.

**Target #4:** Increase program approval actions that lead to the award of a credential such as a certificate, diploma or degree.

**Measure #4:** Number of program approval actions that lead to a recognized credential.



**Analysis of results and challenges:** Program approval actions include initial and revised approval of a defined or structured series of educational or occupational activities leading to the award of a recognized credential such as a Certificate, Diploma or Degree.

### Key Component Challenges

- Support and provide assistance for veterans and their families in pursuit of earned benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Ensure transitional assistance for veterans returning from a theater of combat operations is available and delivered.

- Locating and contacting Alaska Territorial Guard members to assist them in acquiring discharge applications for their service.

### Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

No changes in results delivered.

### Major Component Accomplishments in 2006

The State Approving Agency contract was approved by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. A full-time position was created and filled and delivery of service was implemented for the State of Alaska. The program is fully operational and future annual contract opportunities for this program are expected.

The Joint Venture Grant Program with Veterans Service Organizations continued to serve Alaska veterans well. The program participants assisted Alaska veterans and their families in obtaining compensation and pension benefits now in excess of \$112 million.

Assisted in planning and/or participated in numerous activities which improved communications with Alaska veterans and their families. These include:

- Requested Certificates of Discharge for a total of 171 Alaska Territorial Guard Members
- Ribbon cutting for Veterans Home in Palmer
- *The Moving Wall* Project was promoted in seven communities and 25,000 spectators attended.
- Certificates of Recognition were sent to approximately 800 World War II Aleutian Islands Campaign service members
- Awarded approximately \$12,000 in Veterans Memorial grants
- Operation *Stand Down* in Anchorage and Fairbanks served over 600 veterans  
(*Operation Stand Down is a community wide event designed to provide veterans in need with information on shelter, counseling, housing, medical and dental care, employment, job training, veterans benefits, legal issues, social security, social skills, emotional well being and more.*)
- Provided support for the 26th National Veterans Wheelchair Games held in Anchorage
- Memorial, Veterans, POW-MIA, Independence and Flag Day Ceremonies
- American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Conferences
- Developed and promoted the veterans agenda for the Governor appointed Veterans Advisory Council
- Served as Executive Director of the Governor's Veterans Advisory Council
- Program outreach through various media methods (television, radio and newspaper)

### Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 26 Military Affairs and Veterans  
 AS 44.35 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

Contact Information
<p><b>Contact:</b> John Cramer, Administrative Services Director  <b>Phone:</b> (907) 465-4602  <b>Fax:</b> (907) 465-4605  <b>E-mail:</b> John_Cramer@ak-prepared.com</p>



### Veterans' Services Component Financial Summary

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	116.4	160.0	191.4
72000 Travel	17.4	26.7	26.7
73000 Services	14.9	64.6	56.1
74000 Commodities	8.7	5.4	5.4
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	601.6	633.4	633.4
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>759.0</b>	<b>890.1</b>	<b>913.0</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1002 Federal Receipts	47.0	90.1	90.1
1004 General Fund Receipts	700.4	787.6	810.5
1181 Alaska Veterans' Memorial Endowment Fund	11.6	12.4	12.4
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>759.0</b>	<b>890.1</b>	<b>913.0</b>

### Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
<b>Unrestricted Revenues</b>				
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Unrestricted Total</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Restricted Revenues</b>				
Federal Receipts	51010	47.0	90.1	90.1
AK Veteran's Memorial Endowment Fund	51486	11.6	12.4	12.4
<b>Restricted Total</b>		<b>58.6</b>	<b>102.5</b>	<b>102.5</b>
<b>Total Estimated Revenues</b>		<b>58.6</b>	<b>102.5</b>	<b>102.5</b>

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2007 Management Plan</b>	<b>787.6</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>890.1</b>
<b>Adjustments which will continue current level of service:</b>				
-FY 08 Health Insurance Increases for Exempt Employees	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
-Fund Source Adjustment for Retirement Systems Increases	5.5	-5.5	0.0	0.0
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>				
-Retirement and Non-covered Employee Health Insurance Increases for Division of Personnel	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
-FY 08 Retirement Systems Rate Increases	17.0	5.5	0.0	22.5
<b>FY2008 Governor</b>	<b>810.5</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>913.0</b>

**Veterans' Services  
Personal Services Information**

<b>Authorized Positions</b>		<b>Personal Services Costs</b>		
	<u>FY2007</u> <u>Management</u> <u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2008</u> <u>Governor</u>		
			Annual Salaries	111,483
Full-time	2	2	Premium Pay	0
Part-time	0	0	Annual Benefits	85,773
Nonpermanent	0	0	<i>Less 2.97% Vacancy Factor</i>	<i>(5,856)</i>
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Total Personal Services</b>	<b>191,400</b>

**Position Classification Summary**

<b>Job Class Title</b>	<b>Anchorage</b>	<b>Fairbanks</b>	<b>Juneau</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>
Project Asst	1	0	0	0	1
Veterans Affairs Administrator	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>