



Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County

901 Public Square, Benton, IL 62812

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Members of the Board,

The Veterans Assistance Commission formally determined its necessary funding for FY2026, transmitted that determination to the Board, and presented it during the budget process.

The official record reflects no documented evaluation of that determination prior to final approval, and no response to subsequent follow-up.

For that reason, I am submitting the following statement for the record.

The Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County formally determined, by Resolution, that \$156,600 is **just and necessary** to meet its statutory obligations under Illinois Military Veterans Assistance Act. This determination was adopted on September 9, 2025, and transmitted to the County Board on September 30, 2025.

The Commission's requested budget was subsequently presented during the November 17, 2025 Finance Committee meeting, where the VAC levy was specifically listed as an agenda item. The County therefore had both **formal notice** and **direct presentation** of the Commission's determination prior to final action.

Despite this, the December 15, 2025 meeting minutes reflect that the VAC levy was approved at \$126,000 without discussion of the Commission's submitted determination, without analysis of need, and without reference to the statutory framework. The only substantive exchange indicates the amount was simply "left the same."

Following adoption of the levy, the Commission again contacted the County Board on February 27, 2026, formally requesting alignment of funding through a supplemental appropriation and reiterating the basis for its determination. The record does not reflect any response, analysis, or action taken in connection with that request.

Further, there appears to be no recorded minutes, findings, or recommendations from the November 17 committee meeting reflecting consideration of the VAC presentation.

The record therefore reflects that the Commission's determination was:

- formally adopted,
- timely transmitted,
- directly presented,
- and reaffirmed following final action,

yet is not documented as having been meaningfully considered at any stage of the process.



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Compounding this, the \$126,000 figure had previously been identified during budget discussions as a placeholder amount. The record does not reflect any process by which that placeholder was evaluated against the Commission's formal determination before being adopted as final.

Since that time, the Commission has reaffirmed its determination through Resolution No. 2026-3, again establishing that \$156,600 is necessary to meet its statutory obligations. The Commission's position has remained consistent throughout.

This is not a discretionary funding matter. The statute establishes the Commission's authority to determine the funding necessary to meet its statutory obligations. A process in which that determination is received, presented, reaffirmed, and then reduced without documented evaluation raises serious concerns as to whether the statutory framework was applied at all.

Accordingly, I am requesting clarification on the following:

- What record exists reflecting consideration of the VAC presentation at the November 17, 2025 committee meeting?
- What process was used to evaluate the Commission's September 30, 2025 submission?
- What consideration, if any, was given to the Commission's February 27, 2026 supplemental request?
- What analysis supports the conclusion that \$126,000 satisfies the Commission's necessary expenses?
- What legal authority supports adopting a placeholder figure in place of a formally determined and submitted amount without documented review?

At present, the official record reflects action taken without a corresponding record of evaluation.

Absent clarification, the Commission will be required to further evaluate its position under the Illinois Military Veterans Assistance Act, including the provisions governing its authority to determine necessary funding.

This request is made to ensure the record accurately reflects the process used and its compliance with statutory requirements.

I would welcome the opportunity to resolve this matter cooperatively.

Respectfully,

Liam Mungovan

Superintendent

Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County