

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 18, 1975

The President
of the Senate

Sir:

I ask the Congress to consider amendments to the request for appropriations transmitted in the budget for the fiscal year 1976 in the amount of \$1,413,500,000 and for the transition quarter July 1 through September 30, 1976, in the amount of \$266,000,000 for the Veterans Administration.

The details of these proposals are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, with whose comments and observations I concur.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Enclosure



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

July 18, 1975

The President

The White House

Sir:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration amendments to the request for appropriations transmitted in the 1976 budget, involving an increase in the amount of \$1,413,500,000 for fiscal year 1976 and an increase in the amount of \$266,000,000 for the transition quarter July 1 through September 30, 1976, for the Veterans Administration.

The details of these proposals are contained in the enclosure to this letter. I have reviewed carefully the proposals for appropriations contained in this document and am satisfied that these requests are necessary at this time. I recommend, therefore, that these proposals be transmitted to the Congress.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James T. Lynn".

James T. Lynn
Director

Enclosure

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Budget appen- dix page	Heading	1976 Request Pending	1976 Proposed Amendment	1976 Revised Request
807	Compensation and pensions	\$ 7,499,700,000	\$ 200,000,000	\$ 7,699,700,000
808	Readjustment benefits	\$ 4,214,475,000	\$ 1,200,000,000	\$ 5,414,475,000
817	General operating expenses	\$ 452,957,000	\$ 13,500,000	\$ 466,457,000

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Budget appen- dix page	Heading	Transition Quarter Request Pending	Transition Quarter Proposed Amendment	Transition Quarter Revised Request
807	Compensation and pensions	\$ 1,885,400,000	\$ 81,000,000	\$ 1,966,400,000
808	Readjustment benefits	\$ 854,472,000	\$ 185,000,000	\$ 1,039,472,000

These proposed budget amendments would provide for the payment of compensation, pensions, and related benefits to eligible veterans and their beneficiaries, and education and training assistance benefits to veterans of post-Korean military service and eligible dependents of deceased and disabled veterans. Increased field office staffing is also provided. The number of veterans now estimated to utilize these benefit programs is significantly larger than those which were forecast in the 1976 budget.

The cost of these benefits is beyond administrative control and cannot be absorbed within available appropriations. The present staffing level is not sufficient to process the increased workload in a timely manner.