

CHAPTER 194**(HB 13)**

AN ACT relating to veterans centers, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. There is hereby authorized to the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs for the Bowling Green Veterans Center \$10,500,000 of Bond Funds in fiscal year 2016-2017, for the construction of a state veterans nursing home. This authorization is the required matching funds that complement the \$19,500,000 provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and, upon enactment, no other action is necessary to authorize these funds.

~~➔Section 2. [Notwithstanding KRS 48.720 and 2016 Ky. Acts ch. 149, Pt. III, 32., General Fund moneys appropriated to the Finance and Administration Cabinet for debt service in fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 that are not needed to satisfy any debt service obligation shall first be used to support debt service for the construction of the Bowling Green Veterans Center authorized in Section 1 of this Act before being used to support availability payments required by the Kentucky Communications Network Authority's public-private partnership contract.]~~

➔Section 2. It is the desire of the General Assembly that any future beds allocated from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or reallocated from the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs be dedicated to a state veterans nursing home in Magoffin County to serve that area.

➔Section 3. Whereas the veterans of the Commonwealth deserve the best possible care, as near to their homes and families as is practicable, and whereas this bill will advance that highly important public purpose in this time of urgent need, an emergency is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.

Vetoed in part April 11, 2017. Portions not vetoed became law April 12, 2017, without Governor's signature.