

Fiscal Analysis Department

Minnesota House of Representatives



To: Members of the House Ways & Means Committee

From: Helen Roberts, Fiscal Analyst

Date: February 19, 2021

RE: HF88 (Lippert), Veteran affairs commissioner authorized to establish veteran adult day care programs

HF 88 clarifies that the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) may offer an adult day care program and charge fees for the program. The department has operated an adult day care program at the Minnesota Veterans Homes Minneapolis campus since 2013. The program has been temporarily closed since March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Office of the Legislative Auditor audited the department in 2017 and 2108 and recommended that MDVA seek clear statutory authority to operate an adult day care program and set fees for the program. It was noted that the MDVA established this program under its understanding of Minnesota Statutes 198.006 Supplemental Programs: “the commissioner shall work with federal, state, local, and private agencies to develop alternative institutional and non-institutional care programs for veterans to supplement the mission of the homes.”

HF 88 provides this explicit statutory authority to allow MDVA to operate the program. MDVA will be authorized to formally develop the appropriate rules, policies and procedures for the operations of Adult Day program, including setting fee schedules. HF 88 also authorizes MDVA to apply for and accept federal funding for the program.

There are no new costs tracked for this bill because it does not make changes from current practices.

Additional detail on the history and operations of the adult day care program has been provided by MDVA (attached).