

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

20 W 12th St, St Paul, MN 55155 Phone: 651-296-2562 • Fax: 651-296-3954 MinnesotaVeteran.org • 1-888-LinkVet

Proposal: Authorize a Central Pharmacy within Health Care division

Bill: HF 4412 (Rep. Greenman)/SF____(Sen.)

Background: This proposal creates a statute allowing the MDVA commissioner to operate a central pharmacy for veterans home residents. Currently, MDVA operates a central pharmacy that provides services to all Minnesota Veterans Homes that was established through rulemaking under 9050.

After audits both internally and from the Office of the Legislative Auditor, MDVA is seeking statutory authority to operate the central pharmacy located at the Minnesota Veterans Home – Minneapolis. A new section would be created under §198.006 Supplemental Programs [of the Veterans Affairs commissioner].

The pharmacy provides resident's pharmaceuticals that are prescribed as part of their care plan and ordered by their primary care physician. They are organized in Minneapolis in a building separate from the skilled nursing facility and domiciliary care and then transferred by a contracted vendor to the other veterans homes throughout the state. The centralized pharmacy has a sharing agreement with the federal VA and follows the requirements laid out in the federal State Veterans Home language – 38 CFR Part 51.

Language: (d) The commissioner may operate a central pharmacy to provide any veterans home resident with pharmaceuticals prescribed as part of the resident's care plan. Any pharmacy established under this paragraph must comply with state and federal law, including any applicable rules. The commissioner may engage with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to support the central pharmacy authorized under this paragraph.

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