



# DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

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For Immediate Release:

To: Editors, Feature Writers and Event Listings, News Desks

Subject: OFFICE OF VETERAN ADVOCATE FUNDING

Date: JULY 7, 2026

## MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS SUPPORTS LEVEL FUNDING OF THE OFFICE OF THE VETERAN ADVOCATE

**BOSTON, MA. (JULY 7, 2026)**—As the state budget is finalized, it has come to the attention of the VFW that while the House of Representatives and Governor Healy had approved a budget of 2.4 million dollars for the Office of the Veteran Advocate (OVA), the Senate has proposed a 1 million dollar budget. That would represent more than a 50% cut of the total budget and would have an immediate impact on the ability of the OVA to complete its mandated mission of being an independent voice for Veterans. The VFW believes the OVA as an independent resource is a vital part of the services given to our Massachusetts Veterans and we disagree with the Senate’s proposal to cut their budget. Instead, we believe the office should be level funded so they can continue to be a strong independent voice for Veterans. We would ask that the Governor work with the Senate to accomplish that.

Craig Deold  
State Commander  
Massachusetts VFW

Attest:

William LeBeau  
Adjutant  
Massachusetts VFW

**About the VFW:** The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is the nation's largest and oldest major war Veterans organization. Founded in 1899, the Congressionally Chartered VFW is comprised entirely of eligible veterans and military service members from the Active, Guard and Reserve forces. With more than 1.6 million VFW and Auxiliary members located in 6,200 Posts worldwide, the nonprofit veterans service organization is proud to proclaim “NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS” than the VFW, which is dedicated to veterans’ service, legislative advocacy, and military and community service programs. For more information or to join, visit our website at [www.VFW.org](http://www.VFW.org).

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