

The grant that was reduced in section B.215 is for our Vermont National Guard Tuition Benefit Program (VTNGTBP.) It was reduced by House Appropriations \$100,000.00 from \$1,319,834 to \$1,219,834. This is the key state funded tuition benefit program for our Soldiers and Airmen. This is a critical part of our recruiting and retention for the Vermont National Guard. We would love to get that money restored to the VTNGTBP if possible. The program has seen growth since it began in 2018, and we forecast future growth.

In terms of Veterans, \$10,000.00 for the “Honor Flights” supporting elderly veterans’ trips to Washington DC to the memorials. This money was not included in the Governor’s budget for 2026. It was included last year.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Kim or I if you have further questions.

Thanks,

Hank H.

Henry U. Harder, Jr., Brig Gen, VTANG

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