(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Finds that: (1) A significant number of Washington citizens answered the call to serve our country in recent military action leaving behind families, community, employment, and education;

- (2) Many soldiers returning to their families and communities face transition problems in areas such as family reunification, employment, education, and health;
- (3) While the Washington state department of veterans affairs has provided services to many returning soldiers, a significant number have returned to families and communities without continuing ties to the military department or veterans' administration, but still in need of help; and
- (4) Our state needs to honor and serve those who have protected our security and safety.

Appropriates the sum of ten million dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, for the biennium ending June 30, 2007, from the general fund to the department of veterans affairs for the purposes of this act.