



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1475

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The American Legion's largest meeting, the National Convention, will be held in Tampa Bay Florida from August 23-29th, 2025. The group is responsible for passing programs and policy that determines the course of the Legion, setting membership dues for the upcoming year, and electing a national commander and five national vice commanders to serve until the next convention.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	250,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	250,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.



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The American Legion, Department of Florida, Inc. received \$142,000 and the funds were utilized to keep employees working through the pandemic without pay disruption.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Provide transportation to more than 7,000 Veterans belonging to The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion while attending a National Convention in Tampa Bay, Florida during August of 2025. This transportation would move the visitors through the City of Tampa Bay and to and from the Convention Center and their respective hotels.	250,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

14. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?

Transportation of Veterans the their families throughout the Tampa area and from their hotels to the convention center for the National American Legion Convention in 2025.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?



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Bus transportation for the entire Legion Family throughout the one week National Convention.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The transportation will allow members to easily traverse the city of Tampa Bay and increase tourism throughout the city during this one week visit.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

Veterans, mostly seniors, and their families in town for the American Legion National Convention in 2025.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

The expected benefit would be the presence of over 7,000 Legion members, family, staff and other veterans and attendees to the American Legion National Convention.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for the contract?

The inability of these veterans and their families to easily traverse Tampa Bay during their visit.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information



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a. Name	<input type="text" value="William E. Helmich"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Helmich Consulting"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="bill@helmichconsulting.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(850)251-3126"/>