PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information *cannot* perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 2 (page 2, lines 7 to 20 in amendment) and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. Study. The contracted mobile Veterans Services Officer position authorized pursuant to section 5 is a limited-period position ending on July 30, 2009. The Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management shall undertake a study to determine the need to continue the mobile Veterans Services Officer position, results achieved from the position, activities of the position and the need for an additional Veterans Services Officer position to be located in Portland. The department shall report the results of this study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over legal and veterans affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs no later than January 15, 2009.

**Sec. 3. Transfer of funds from Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Internal Service Fund.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Controller shall transfer \$90,762 by June 30, 2009 from the Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Internal Service Fund in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund. The State Controller shall also transfer the equitable share of health insurance savings to each participating fund by June 30, 2009. The fund transfers are to recognize health insurance savings achieved through changes to be adopted by the State Employee Health Commission.

**Sec. 4. Transfer of funds from Retiree Health Insurance Internal Service Fund.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Controller shall transfer \$27,111 by June 30, 2009 from the Retiree Health Insurance Internal Service Fund in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund. The State Controller shall also transfer the equitable share of retiree health insurance savings to each participating fund by June 30, 2009. The fund transfers are to recognize retiree health insurance savings achieved through changes to be adopted by the State Employee Health Commission.

**Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

## DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

## Veterans Services 0110

Initiative: Provides an appropriation of \$85,000 for one limited-period contracted mobile Veterans Service Officer position and related administrative and operating costs.

| GENERAL FUND All Other | <b>2007-08</b><br>\$0 | <b>2008-09</b><br>\$85,000 |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL     | <del></del>           | \$85.000                   |

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Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

## **SUMMARY**

This amendment removes the General Fund appropriation to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management of \$250,000 in fiscal year 2008-09 for a Veterans Services Officer position in Portland, a mobile Veterans Service Officer position, an Office Associate position, and related administrative and operating costs, and instead adds a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$85,000 to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management in fiscal year 2008-09 for a contracted mobile Veterans Service Officer position and related administrative and operating costs and increases the amounts transferred to the General Fund from the Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Internal Service Fund and the Retiree Health Insurance Internal Service Fund from savings achieved through changes adopted by the State Employee Health Commission by \$117,873 in fiscal year 2008-09.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)