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MEDIA ADVISORY

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OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Oklahoma Veterans Commission Takes Action to Secure the Future of the Ardmore Veterans Home

STATEWIDE – The Oklahoma Veterans Commission has authorized a reduction in the licensed bed capacity at the Ardmore Veterans Home to match its current usable capacity. Additionally, the commissioners approved up to \$5 million in funding to develop a comprehensive plan that will assess potential demolition and renovation options for the facility.

The Commission's action strengthens the Home's financial position by allowing the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs to better align available funding and operating costs with the facility's current capacity. The result is additional resources that can be redirected toward improving the portions of the Home where veterans live and staff work every day.

The action maintains ample long-term care capacity for veterans in southern Oklahoma through the combined capabilities of the Ardmore and Sulphur Veterans Homes and does not alter the Department's long-term commitment to serving veterans in the region.

By aligning licensed capacity with the Home's usable space, the Department will no longer incur unnecessary costs associated with excess staffing requirements and continued expenditures supporting portions of the facility that have not been successfully restored. Instead, those resources can be invested where they will have the greatest immediate benefit for residents and employees.

No Reduction in Force (RIF) is anticipated. Staffing will continue to be managed through normal workforce planning as resident census aligns with the updated licensed bed capacity.

Residents and staff should see the benefits of this decision in the near term through continued investment in occupied resident areas, employee workspaces, and facility improvements that directly enhance daily operations and quality of life.

This action does not change the Department's long-term vision for the Ardmore campus. Planning will continue for the eventual replacement or redevelopment of the Home, and today's action preserves the flexibility to pursue future licensed bed increases should future demand and facility improvements support them.

"This action reflects responsible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us while reinforcing our commitment to the veterans we serve," said Executive Director Jay Bynum. "It allows us to direct more of our resources to the veterans living in the Home today while preserving our options for tomorrow."

The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs continues to operate one of the nation's largest state veterans home systems, providing more than 1,350 licensed long-term care beds across Oklahoma.

SUMMARY:

This decision strengthens the financial position of the Home, improves the management of public resources, and creates opportunities for immediate enhancements that will benefit both veterans and staff.

- Veterans in southern Oklahoma will continue to be served through the Ardmore and Sulphur Veterans Homes.
- Statewide, Oklahoma will continue to operate more than 1,350 licensed long-term care beds.
- The action allows the Department to better align available funding with actual operations.
- It also reduces ongoing costs associated with maintaining licensed capacity that cannot currently be utilized.
- Together, those changes free resources that can be invested where they produce the greatest benefit.
- Staffing will be managed through normal workforce planning as resident census aligns with the updated licensed capacity.
- This action does not alter plans to pursue the long-term replacement or redevelopment of the Ardmore Veterans Home.
- It preserves flexibility to increase licensed capacity in the future if demand and future facilities support it.

CUTLINE: In its July meeting, the [Oklahoma Veterans Commission](#) approved a decrease in the licensed bed capacity at the [Ardmore Veterans Home](#) to a maximum of 50 beds. The commission also authorized the expenditure of \$5 million to better align the licensed capacity with the facility's current usable space.



The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) is dedicated to ensuring that all Oklahoma veterans and their families receive the benefits they deserve. The ODVA provides quality health services and long-term skilled care for qualified veterans in residential settings, regardless of their ability to pay. Legislative actions have created a payment system that allows honorably discharged veterans to access care through ODVA Centers. With support from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA), veterans receive pensions and compensation that help cover their care costs without jeopardizing their spouses' financial well-being.