



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO 211 OCT 27 PM 12 01

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THOMAS J. PASTUSZKA
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470
CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: November 8, 2011
TO: Board of Supervisors
SUBJECT: LEAVE NO VETERAN BEHIND (ALL DISTRICTS)
SUMMARY:

Overview

California is home to nearly two million veterans who have served honorably and made great sacrifices to defend our freedoms and protect us from foreign threats. Most veterans live productive, healthy lives and contribute to the region's quality of life through substantial civic involvement and volunteerism. However, some veterans face a variety of issues and challenges after they leave service, ranging from unemployment to mental illness, substance abuse and homelessness.

The County of San Diego, through its Health and Human Services Agency and its Veterans Services Office, provides benefit information and assistance, plus other support, to veterans and their families. Nevertheless, there is always an opportunity to do more or find new ways of offering help so that we leave no veteran behind.

Public-private partnerships already exist to help veterans and may provide opportunities for the County's involvement and/or support. For example, the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce's military mentoring program pairs active military service men and women about to enter civilian life with corporations and businesses to job shadow employees and executives. In addition, the REBOOT program based at the former Naval Training Center at Liberty Station offers workshops providing veterans transitioning into civilian life with the skills and information needed to successfully compete in a modern, fast-changing business world.

Our Board of Supervisors remains committed to helping our veterans who have risked their lives for our country. Today's board conference and actions will reinforce the County's commitment to supporting and helping our veterans.

Recommendation(s)

CHAIRMAN BILL HORN AND SUPERVISOR GREG COX:

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to the Board of

**SUBJECT: LEAVE NO VETERAN BEHIND
(ALL DISTRICTS)**

Supervisors within 120 days with community input identifying needs and resources for veterans.

2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to the Board within 120 days with recommendations for actions to further support veterans.

Fiscal Impact

There is no impact to the County General Fund.

BACKGROUND:

California is home to nearly two million veterans who have served honorably and made great sacrifices to defend our freedoms and protect us from foreign threats. Most veterans live productive, healthy lives and contribute to the region's quality of life through substantial civic involvement and volunteerism. However, some veterans face a variety of issues and challenges after they leave service, ranging from unemployment to mental illness, substance abuse and homelessness.

Public-private partnerships already exist to help veterans and may provide opportunities for the County's involvement and/or support. For example, the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce's military mentoring program pairs active military service men and women about to enter civilian life with corporations and businesses to job shadow employees and executives. In addition, the REBOOT program based at the former Naval Training Center at Liberty Station offers workshops providing veterans transforming into civilian life with the skills and information needed to successfully compete in a modern, fast-changing business world.

Approximately 1,649 homeless veterans live in San Diego County, representing 17.5 percent of the overall homeless population, according to the Regional Task Force on the Homeless. Many of these homeless veterans, and some veterans who are not homeless, struggle with substance abuse, mental illness and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders. These issues are reflected in the phone calls received by San Diego's Courage to Call program, operated by 2-1-1, which is tailored to provide information and referrals to veterans in our region.

In August 2011, 2-1-1 San Diego answered 1,016 calls from veteran or active duty military clients, which accounted for 5 percent of 2-1-1's overall call volume for that month. Of the total needs presented by these callers, 45 percent were seeking basic needs, such as food, housing, transportation and utility assistance; 14 percent were seeking income support, including public benefit applications; 7 percent were seeking healthcare resources; and another 5 percent asked about mental health or substance abuse services.

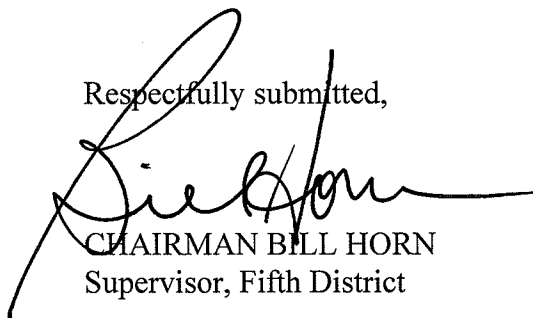
The County of San Diego, through its Health and Human Services Agency and its Veterans Services Office, provides benefit information and assistance, plus other support, to veterans and their families. Nevertheless, there is always an opportunity to do more or find new ways of offering help so that we leave no veteran behind.

**SUBJECT: LEAVE NO VETERAN BEHIND
(ALL DISTRICTS)**

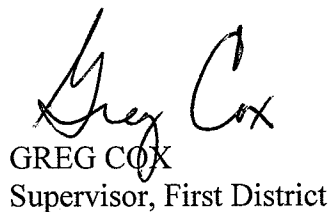
Other opportunities may exist to offer more help to our local veterans. We can begin to explore those through this conference.

Our Board of Supervisors remains committed to helping our veterans who have risked their lives for our country. Today's board conference and actions will reinforce the County's commitment to supporting and helping our veterans.

Respectfully submitted,



CHAIRMAN BILL HORN
Supervisor, Fifth District



GREG COX
Supervisor, First District

**SUBJECT: LEAVE NO VETERAN BEHIND
(ALL DISTRICTS)**

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

CONCURRENCE(S)

COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Written Disclosure per County Charter	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Section 1000.1 Required		
GROUP/AGENCY FINANCE DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Requires Four Votes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
GROUP/AGENCY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
COUNTY TECHNOLOGY OFFICE	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: District One and District Five

CONTACT PERSON(S):

Luis Monteagudo

Name

(619) 531-5511

Phone

Joshua Ramirez

Name

(619) 531-5555

Phone

