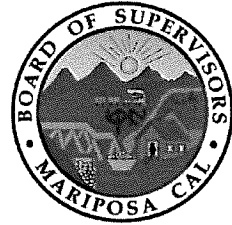




MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration · 209-966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-85

MEETING: February 24, 2015
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mary Hodson, Interim CAO
RE: Letter of Support for AB171 Veterans Services

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve a Letter of Support for AB171 Veterans' Services Officer Funding, and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter.

The Governor's budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 is reducing the funding for Veterans' Services Officers from \$5.6 million to \$2.6 million. AB171 would restore the funding to \$5.6 million and make the increase permanent.

The Mariposa County Veterans' Services Officer, Robert Johns, states that this increase could help to bring more services to 2,153 local veterans and their families.

Please see attached letter for further information.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has routinely approved letters of support for issues that they believe will benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not approve the letter. Individual Board members may write their own letters of support for the legislation which may not carry the weight of a letter from the entire Board.

ATTACHMENTS:

AB171 Veterans Services Support ltr v2 (DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson

Mary Hodson, Interim CAO 2/18/2015

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

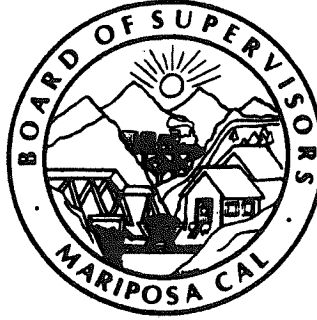
SECONDER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Merlin Jones, Marshall Long, John Carrier

EXCUSED: Kevin Cann

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ... ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE
District 2 MERLIN JONES
District 3 MARSHALL LONG
District 4 KEVIN CANN
District 5 JOHN CARRIER



MARY HODSON
Interim County Administrative Officer

RENE LAROCHE
Clerk of the Board

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February 24, 2015

The Honorable Jacqui Irwin
California State Assembly
P.O. Box 942849
State Capitol Room 6011
Sacramento, CA 94249-0044

RE: County Veterans' Service Officers Funding

SUPPORT – AB 171

Dear Assembly Member Irwin:

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors supports AB 171 which seeks to increase local assistance funding for County Veterans' Service Officers (CVSOs) to \$5.6 million Statewide, and to make this increase permanent. If funding is reduced to \$2.6 million as noted in the Governor's budget, new efforts that have been implemented to care for our veterans will be in jeopardy.

Presently, there are an estimated 2,153 veterans living in Mariposa County. When factoring in their families, the number this county could potentially serve reaches an estimated 5,081. Passage of AB 171 would make it possible to expand services to thousands of underserved veterans and their dependents. Whether through additional staffing or access to technology, the additional funds will help to ensure that our veterans are aware of the federal and state benefits available as a result of their military service.

Thank you for your leadership and sponsoring this important bill.

Sincerely,

MERLIN JONES
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

cc: Members, Board of Supervisors
Members, Senate Budget Committee
Members, Assembly Budget Committee
Members, Senate Budget Subcommittee #4
Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4
The Honorable Tom Berryhill – California State Senate
The Honorable Frank Bigelow – California State Assembly
Terri Peresan – Mariposa County Director of Community Services
Robert Johns - Mariposa County Veterans Service Officer
Pete Conaty & Associates