



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 7/10/2018

Agenda Placement: 6A

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** JoAnn Melgar for Mary Butler - Interim Director  
Health & Human Services Administration

**REPORT BY:** JoAnn Melgar, Staff Services Analyst II - 707-253-4722

**SUBJECT:** Renewal Certifications regarding State Veterans Services Allocation

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Interim Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the renewal of the following Certifications to enable the County to receive funding from the California Department of Veterans Affairs:

1. Agreement No. 170769B Annual Subvention Program Certificate of Compliance for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 for State subvention funding for the County Veterans Services Office; and
2. Agreement No. 170770B Annual Medi-Cal Cost Avoidance Program Certificate of Compliance for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 committing the County to assist veterans in obtaining benefits from non-Medi-Cal funding sources.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The State Department of Veterans Affairs allocates funding to assist County Veterans Services offices. To obtain these funds, the County must:

1. agree to provide veterans services;
2. designate a Veterans Services Officer in compliance with California Code of Regulations, Title 12, Subchapter 4; the person so designated must be qualified under the Military and Veterans Code; and
3. sign an Annual Medi-Cal Cost Avoidance Program Certificate of Compliance that certifies that the activities of the County's Veterans Services Officer (CVSO) will reasonably benefit the Department of Health Services (DHS) or achieve cost avoidance for the Medi-Cal program authorized by Military and Veterans Code Section 972.5.

Approval of the requested actions is recommended as execution of these annual certificates will enable Napa

County to receive approximately \$54,000 in Federal and State funds from the California Department of Veterans Affairs for services provided by the County's Veterans Services office to Napa veterans and their families. The subvention funds only cover a small portion of the County Veterans Services Officer's costs. The County provides the majority of financial support to provide these vital services in our community.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Health & Human Services Comprehensive Services for Older Adults
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	<p>Approval of the requested action is discretionary in that, while counties are required to provide some level of veterans services, counties are not required to pursue funding from the California Department of Veterans Affairs. Approval of the requested agreements/certifications will allow Napa County to receive the three categories of funding from the California Department of Veterans Affairs described below.</p> <p>The Napa County Veterans Services Office receives approximately \$54,000 in Federal and State revenue annually from three programs: (1) subvention funds; (2) Medi-Cal cost avoidance; and (3) license plate fees (the State Veterans Services Office Fund). Subvention funds are distributed on a workload basis by county. The Medi-Cal cost avoidance program pays counties for activities that county veterans services officers perform that will benefit the Department of Health Services (DHS) or achieve savings for the Medi-Cal program ("cost avoidance"). The State Veterans Services Office Fund is created through the sale of veterans license plates. These funds are shared among counties based upon counties' shares of statewide veterans expenditures.</p>
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	None
Consequences if not approved:	If the requested actions are not approved, Napa County will not receive approximately \$54,000 to supplement budgeted County General Funds used to pay for the operations of the County's Veterans Services Office. The Napa County's Veterans Services Officer (CVSO) assists veterans in receiving benefits to which they are entitled. Without his services, Napa County veterans will not be able to access benefits at the current level. Veterans would either have to work with the Veterans Administration on their own or go to another county for information and services relating to the particular benefits to which they or their family members are entitled.

Additional Information:

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The Napa County's Veterans Services Office(CVSO) serves eligible veterans, spouses and dependent children, dependent parents, surviving family members, and anyone with questions, concerns or interest in veterans services. Napa's CVSO provides information regarding claims assistance, client advocacy waivers and appeal processes, case maintenance, referrals to outreach services at VA service centers, education, compensation and pension programs, dependents and survivor benefits, Cal-Vet Home Loan programs, medical benefits, life insurance, and burial benefits.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Ben Guerrieri