ATTACHMENT

For Item

#28

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

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Board of Supervisors County of San Diego 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335 San Diego, CA 92101

23 September 2022

Dear Chair Nathan Fletcher and the County Board of Supervisors,

George Glover is pleased to support the policy proposal on the September 27, 2022 agenda, "Prioritizing Our Veterans: Establishing a Center for Military and Veteran Reintegration in East County."

It is so important to assist our veterans in successfully transitioning from military service, adjusting to civilian life, and securing meaningful employment and services through community collaboration, the integration of services and the implementation of best practice tools which facilitate self-sufficiency and prosperity.

There is currently a County-operated Veterans Center in each supervisorial district, except for District 2, despite East County being home to the largest number of veterans in the region. "Prioritizing Our Veterans: Establishing a Center for Military and Veteran Reintegration in East County" asks the County team to reimagine the way that services are provided to veterans at existing Military and Veteran Resource Centers, and to create a new intergenerational Center in East County for veterans and their families. It also asks for the new Center to have a housing component for veterans, which many of our District 2 veterans will benefit from.

It is important that there are investments in resources that are meaningful to our veterans and to ensure that there is equitable access throughout the County. Having an East County one-stop shop with streamlined and effective integrated services, activities and opportunities is vital for their successful transition to civilian life and continued well-being. This large and important group of people, who served our nation to protect our rights, deserve the utmost respect and support when reintegrating into civilian life.

Veterans and their families may at times experience difficulty adjusting to life after their military service has ended. I ask the Board of Supervisors to support this item in the hopes we can better support our local heroes and provide new opportunities for them to be successful now and in the future.

Respectfully submitted, George V. Glover

From:	<u>Vic Martin</u>
То:	FGG, Public Comment
Cc:	Fletcher, Nathan (BOS); Anderson, Joel
Subject:	[External] Support for Center for Military and Veteran Reintegration (CMVR)
Date:	Monday, September 26, 2022 6:05:29 PM

Good evening, Supervisors.

The San Diego Veterans Coalition (SDVC) was founded in 2009 to help veterans and their families obtain earned benefits and transition to civilian life to honor the military service and family support for those who wore the cloth of our nation in service to our country. The Physical and Emotional Health Action Group (PEH) of SDVC fully supports the need for a Center for Military and Veteran Reintegration (CMVR) in the East County, home to several thousand veterans and their families.

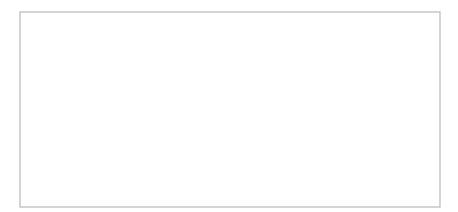
We know that the transition from active duty to civilian life, especially for the junior enlisted military members can be harrowing. San Diego 125,000 active-duty population loses 10% to civilian life each year and for those who stay in the area, the cost of housing, food, transportation, childcare and finding a new identity and occupation can be an overwhelming challenge and an CMVR can go a long way to make the transition quicker, easier, and very much more beneficial to the local community. Active-duty members who then are veterans are fully in transition only when they have a clear path to benefits and to navigate the panoply of resources, they need to take an organized set of resources which are seen in an CMVR.

We want veterans to be part of their new local community, which is step one to mental health. We want veterans to provide for their families, maintain the great health they enjoyed while on active duty and to be able to find care providers that will help make them attainable. We want veterans to be able to find employment and use the skills, discipline, leadership qualities they learned while on active duty to help lead their new communities toward a safe and secure future and grow the peace of mind that that contribution makes to all our lives in San Diego. The best way to achieve all these goals for Physical and Emotional Health in our view is a CMVR but in the mode of the Center for Military and Veteran Reintegration. This newer approach focuses on the transition to civilian life and organizes it in a logical and guided progression. That helps everyone, supports the San Diego County Live Well Model, and is unique in the United States.

Supervisors, thank you for your leadership in our community.

Very Respectfully,

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