

COUNTY OF EL DORADO
RECORDER CLERK - REGISTRAR OF VOTERS - VETERANS AFFAIRS
William E. Schultz



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February 4, 2015

To: Brian K. Veerkamp, Chairman, Board of Supervisors

From: William E. Schultz, Recorder-Clerk-Registrar of Voters-Dept. of Veteran Affairs

Subj: State Funding for County Veteran Service Officers

Dear Brian,

I am asking for your Board's help. Today the Governor released his proposed budget for the 2015-16 Fiscal Year. As expected, the funding level for CVSO Local Assistance (subvention) has reverted to \$2.6 million, as in years past. We will again have to fight to raise this amount up to \$5.6 million. As in the past few years, we will also be fighting to make this \$5.6 million funding level permanent. This past year the Legislature approved additional funding for CVSO's from 2.6 million to 5.6 million. Our veterans need this additional funding so that our CVSO's can continue to provide the additional help and assistance that these additional dollars have done for us this year. It just seems a shame that our veterans are not thought highly enough of to continue to fund programs for them when the counties are so willing to help. We have over 15,000 veterans in El Dorado County. Your Veteran Affairs Office wants to help all our Veterans procure the benefits and programs that they have earned by serving our country.

The new Chair of the Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs, Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin (D-Camarillo) and the committee consultant John Spangler will be introducing legislation to again increase the funding to \$5.6 million and make it permanent.

Many counties, including El Dorado County, have submitted letters of support for this increase over the past 2-3 years. Last year the state provided additional funding for us. We need to keep doing this (urging the passage of a bill to permanently increase CVSO funding to the \$5.6 million dollar level) until the entire legislature and the governor understand the great need for this additional funding and vote for passage of the bill Assemblywoman Irwin presents for passage.

I will attach a suggested letter for your information. It is pretty straightforward, if you staff could prepare it for the Board consideration (or, I could do so) then let me know what else you might need from me to get this done.

Thank you,

William E. Schultz
Veteran Affairs (Interim) Director