

12-1689

JOBS & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

OCT 24 2012

MOTION

PERSONNEL & ANIMAL WELFARE

BUDGET & FINANCE

According to the California Department of Veteran Affairs (CalVet), California is home to nearly two million veterans, of which, 346,000 live in Los Angeles County. As the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan scale down, veterans returning home to Los Angeles could face significant personal and economic challenges.

The City's high unemployment rate, compounded with other economic difficulties, require that the City leverage its resources with those provided by CalVet and federal agencies to maximize job placement, housing assistance and other services for war veterans. Workforce development funding has substantially decreased over the last few years. It is therefore necessary to establish a dedicated effort to coordinate employment and housing services for veterans and to leverage any City resources with colleges, faith-based organizations, and other stakeholders. By maximizing its resources and outreach efforts, the City could mitigate the potential for long-term unemployment, instability, and homelessness.

Working with the Workforce Investment Board, the City adopts service targets for its WorkSource Center System; however, a service target has never been established for veterans. In order to be strategic in addressing the needs of veterans, the City should establish a targeted level of service for this population. In addition, to better support veterans the City should establish a Veterans Affairs Coordinator position and seek to co-locate specialized military social workers within our WorkSource Center System.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Community Development Department, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, be instructed to report to Council, in 30 days, with the required Council actions to create a Veteran Affairs Coordinator, including, position authority, budgetary actions, and recommended department to house the position.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Community Development Department work with the Workforce Investment Board to report back to Council with a recommended target for a veteran service level for the WorkSource Center System.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Community Development Department work with the Workforce Investment Board to report back to Council with a recommendation for co-locating specialized military social workers within the WorkSource Center System.

PRESENTED BY:


ERIC GARCETTI
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:




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ORIGINAL