

14-1258

BUDGET & FINANCE

MOTION

In 2011, the City established the Office of Veteran Affairs to centralize City resources, enable access to local and regional services, and to serve as a one-stop shop for all veteran inquiries. Also in 2011, the City Council, in partnership with the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), established a minimum ten percent service level for veterans and persons with disabilities to encourage the recruitment, job training and placement of war veterans.

According to the 2012 American Community Survey, in 2012, there were nearly 110,000 veterans in the City of Los Angeles of which 15 percent were unemployed and 28 percent were disabled. While the City of Los Angeles has made it a priority to provide services, coordinate resources and enhance programs to end veteran homelessness, reduce poverty and increase job creation, more needs to be done to assist our war veterans with job placement.


To further enhance the City's assistance to our veteran community, it is recommended that the Council explore the benefits of establishing a Pilot Veteran Business Tax Rebate Program modeled after the federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) which seeks to provide incentives to businesses that hire individuals pertaining to difficult to employ populations, including veterans. The proposed veteran business tax rebate program would target employers who hire honorably discharged veterans who are City residents and are employed for an entire business tax year. The amount of the rebate would be capped at \$1,000 per hired veteran and \$1,500 for a disabled veteran for a maximum of \$20,000 per business. Employers would be eligible for a one-time benefit per employee and would apply for the rebate at the time of paying the City business tax.

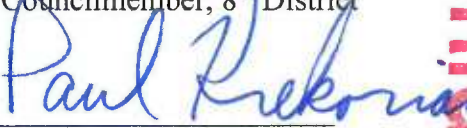
Our veteran community deserves our full support and any assistance to encourage employers to hire from this population could lead to positive outcomes such as reduced poverty, financial stability and reduced homelessness.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Office of Finance, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to establish a Pilot Veteran Business Tax Rebate Program that provides a tax credit of up to \$1,500 to businesses that hire veterans that are residents of the City of Los Angeles.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Office of Finance include parameters that limit the rebate to one tax credit per employee for a maximum of \$20,000 per business.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Office of Finance, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, identify and allocate \$1 million to finance this pilot program.

PRESENTED BY 
BERNARD C. PARKS
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY 


fvc

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ORIGINAL