

Lee County Board Of County Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary

Blue Sheet No. 20020796

1. REQUESTED MOTION:

ACTION REQUESTED:

Request BOARD APPROVE RESOLUTION TO BE SENT TO THE Veterans Administration.

WHY ACTION IS NECESSARY:

Board must approve Resolutions.

WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:

Conveys the Board's support for the Veterans Administration.

2. DEPARTMENTAL CATEGORY:
COMMISSION DISTRICT #

A3A

3. MEETING DATE:

07-09-2002

4. AGENDA:

- CONSENT
 ADMINISTRATIVE
 APPEALS
 PUBLIC
 WALK ON
 TIME REQUIRED:

5. REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE:
(Specify)

- STATUTE
 ORDINANCE
 ADMIN.
 CODE
 OTHER

6. REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION:

- A. COMMISSIONER Commissioner Coy
 B. DEPARTMENT _____
 C. DIVISION _____
 BY: _____

7. BACKGROUND:

8. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

9. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL:

| A Department Director | B Purchasing or Contracts | C Human Resources | D Other | E County Attorney | F Budget Services | | | | G County Manager |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----|------|----|---------------------|
| | | | | S. P. found 6/26/02 | OA | OM | Risk | GC | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

10. COMMISSION ACTION:

- APPROVED
 DENIED
 DEFERRED
 OTHER

| |
|----------------|
| Rec. by CoAtty |
| Date: 6/26/02 |
| Time: 3:20pm |
| Forwarded To: |

RESOLUTION # _____

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA APPRIISING THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND SENATE OF A CRITICAL SITUATION IN LEE COUNTY, AND ALL OF FLORIDA, REGARDING THE LACK OF VETERANS HEALTH CARE NEEDS

- WHEREAS:** The Board of County Commissioners of Lee County, Florida wish to apprise the members of the United States Congress and Senate, more specifically the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation and Florida's U. S. Senators, of a critical situation in Lee County, and all of Florida, regarding the U. S. Department of Veteran's Affairs responsibility to provide adequate health care to our Veterans in need; and
- WHEREAS:** The United States Government has acknowledged its responsibility to provide medical care or compensation for medical problems, as well as other benefits, to those Veterans who served their country in time of war; and
- WHEREAS:** The World War II and Korean War Veterans population is presently over 70 years of age, many of whom currently reside or visit Florida, and are passing away at a rate of 1000 Veterans per day; and
- WHEREAS:** This Board urges the members of congress and U.S. Senate to immediately review the issue of funding for health care services mandated for all Veterans here in Lee County and the State of Florida. In as much as there has been a recent increase of \$91 million dollars allocated by Congress for this region, it appears that Southwest Florida has not felt the effect of this benefit so therefore this Board is requesting for the Congress and U. S. Senate to adopt supplemental appropriations to augment the inadequate resources available in our communities, causing a severe backlog of health care services, and ultimately placing the lives of our Veterans at risk; and
- WHEREAS:** In Lee County the waiting list alone for health care services extends to about 1400 people and waits are becoming excruciating and in some cases services for Veterans needing care per the Federal governments responsibilities are being eliminated; and
- WHEREAS:** The Board of County Commissioners of Lee County, Florida, strongly urges ALL members of congress and U. S. Senate to authorize, fund, and implement, through the Veterans Administration, an emergency program consisting of a team of physicians, nurses, physician assistants, and other related health care professionals to eliminate the backlog of Veterans waiting to receive medical care through the Veterans Administration, thus allowing the members of Congress, U.S. Senate and the Department of Veterans Affairs to come up with a permanent solution to this severe problem.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA HEREBY:

- 1. Supports the need for additional funding and request immediate action in eliminating the backlog of thousands of Veterans who are seeking medical care here in Lee County and the State of Florida, and**
- 2. Request the members of Congress, U. S. Senate and the Veterans Administration a determination of what is considered to be an adequate and average wait time for our Veterans to receive services from area Veterans clinics and/or hospitals.**
- 3. Hereby directs County Administration to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Florida Congressional Delegation and Florida's U. S. Senators.**

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and, being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| ROBERT JANES | _____ |
| DOUGLAS ST. CERNY | _____ |
| RAY JUDAH | _____ |
| ANDREW COY | _____ |
| JOHN E. ALBION | _____ |

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9th DAY OF JULY 2002.

ATTEST:
CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

By: _____
Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
County Attorney