LACVAC Recommendation #1

WHEREAS, California Vehicle Code 12811 provides a mechanism between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Motor Vehicles and the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers to acknowledge verification of veteran status;¹

WHEREAS, A veteran may obtain a California driver's license and/or identification card with the word "VETERAN" printed on the card after meeting with a County Veteran Service Officer and submitting proof of such meeting to the Department of Motor Vehicles;

WHEREAS, Section 641 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 provides active-duty service members, military veterans and Gold Star Family members with free lifetime access to national parks and federal recreational lands;²

WHEREAS, California Public Resources Code Section 5011.5 entitles veterans, under specified criteria, who are also state residents, to a pass which permits free use of all facilities, including boat launching facilities, in units of the state park system;³

WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco passed Ordinance 238-21 on December 14, 2021 which reduces or eliminates fees for admission to and use of certain facilities on park property for veteran and active members of the United States Armed Forces;⁴

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Commission received a briefing from LA County Department of Parks and Recreation and discussed the issue of free veteran access to Parks and Recreation facilities on January 12, 2022;⁵ and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Commission received a briefing from LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors and discussed the issue of free veteran access to Beaches and Harbors facilities on February 9, 2022;⁶

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ON NOVEMBER 16, 2022:

Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Commission recommends that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors implement a comprehensive program that provides military veterans with free parking and admission to County-owned or operated public lands. Examples include, but are not limited to, parks, nature centers and gardens, golf courses, recreation areas, fitness, aquatic and outdoor facilities, theatres, stages, museums, and beaches. Veterans would be required to furnish a valid California identification card and/or driver's license with "VETERAN" designation to qualify for such incentives. The Veterans Advisory Commission understands that certain exceptions would be necessary, for example leased events, but encourages the Board to adopt an ordinance bringing the County of Los Angeles closer to existing federal and local government programs regarding free veteran access to public lands.

¹ California Vehicle Code 12811

² S. 1065 – National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022

³ California Park Resources Code Section 5011.5

⁴ County of San Francisco Ordinance 238-21

⁵ LA County Veterans Advisory Commission meeting on January 12, 2022

⁶ LA County Veterans Advisory Commission meeting on February 9, 2022

Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Commission Recommendation Signature Page

	SD 1 Commissioner Joe Leal	
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
DocuSigned by:		
SD 1 Commissioner - VACANT		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
SD 2 Commissioner Patricia Jackson-Kelley		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
Docusigned by:		
SD 2 Commissioner Jawana McFadden		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
SD 3 Commissioner Anthony Allman		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
DocuSigned by: Anthony Allman		
SD 3 Commissioner - VACANT		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
SD 4 Commissioner Chi Szeto		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
Docusigned by: The Sycto		
SD 4 Commissioner Alfonso Noyola (Pending)		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
SD 5 Commissioner John Gutierrez		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
DocuSigned by:		
SD 5 Commissioner Dennis Anderson		
Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained
Dennis Anderson		
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