

RESOLUTION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MARIN COUNTY

HONORING VETERANS ON
VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 11, 2016

WHEREAS, in 1919, at the close of World War I, President Wilson proclaimed November 11th Armistice Day, with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations"; and

WHEREAS, in 1954, after World War II required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history and after American forces fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress renamed November 11th Veterans Day, a day to honor American veterans of all wars; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of this time-honored holiday, our nation and its people have grappled with how best to express its appreciation and gratitude to the many men and women who have served our country in the armed forces, merchant marine and other forms of military service; and

WHEREAS, we have honored and thanked veterans in many ways: in pride filled ceremonies with speeches, presentations and patriotic displays; essay contests challenging students to offer thoughts and appreciation to those returned from service and those never to return whose sacrifice was ultimate; town hall displays and parades featuring veterans in uniform medaled and bedecked with ribbons, marching alongside formal, tightly choreographed color guard; and

WHEREAS, when the chairs are stacked and folded and the confetti is swept, we ask ourselves if our Veterans Day offer of thanks measures up to the courage of their service. Does our observance of a day, Veterans Day, convey our true regard for veterans in selflessly taking up this vital cause - to protect and serve - along with the pain, suffering, loss and sacrifice that they and their families often unknowingly assume; and

WHEREAS, most of us have passed a sign that asks us to "Thank a Veteran Today" and so, we pause in an airport to do just that to the passing Navy man in white uniform with a buzz cut or the young woman in Army green at the local shopping mall, checking that off our patriotic "to do" list, at the same time knowing it's simply not enough; and

WHEREAS, understanding that actions speak louder than words, we challenge ourselves today and every day to reflect on what a truly meaningful thank you looks and feels like; and

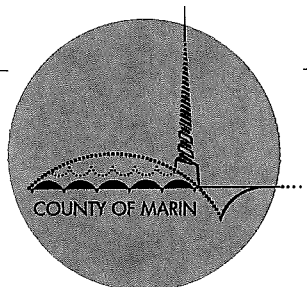
WHEREAS, veteran's services organizations exist in both the public and private sector to provide welcome and help to military veterans and their families. They need us to step up and join them in this work. The Marin County Veterans Services Office provides that open door to connect veterans to benefits, medical care and services. In the nonprofit sector, Veteran's PATH, begun here in Marin, enables returning veterans to rediscover meaning, purpose, and joy in their lives through mindfulness, meditation and a safe community; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Marin County who have served our country in all wars and conflicts, and also in times of peace, have made countless contributions both during and after their service as vital members of the Marin community. As they return to us, it's now our turn to give them a true and worthy welcome home.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors for the County of Marin, in observance of Veterans Day 2016, does hereby thank and appreciate the service of all veterans and further asks the people of Marin County to step up to the challenge of providing true welcome and thanks by supporting the organizations that serve returning veterans and their families to achieve a peaceful, engaged, and joyful return to community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 8th day of November 2016.

STEVE KINSEY - SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4 - PRESIDENT



KATHRIN SEARS - SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 3