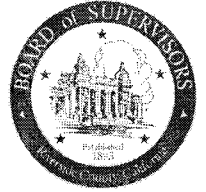


**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Buster

SUBMITTAL DATE: July 24, 2008

SUBJECT: California National Guard Education Assistance Program

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Riverside County Board of Supervisor urges the Senate and Assembly leadership and members representing the County of Riverside to support the California National Guard Education Assistance Program and the 3.5 million dollars the Governor is requesting for the appropriation. The Board of Supervisors also directs the County's advocate in Sacramento to convey its support to the Governor, legislature, and key appointed staff.

BACKGROUND: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger desires to include the California National Guard Education Assistance Program in the State of California Budget currently being negotiated with the State Senate and State Assembly leadership in recognition of the outstanding service, valor, and patriotism of the soldiers and airmen of the California National Guard and State Military Department.

California is the only state in the nation that does not provides tuition assistance to members of the California National Guard and the State Military Department. Four United States territories also provide tuition assistance programs to members of the Army and Air National Guard units in their respective territories.

The California National Guard and the State Military Department operate the nations largest National Guard force. Its members are the nations most tasked and most deployed in the Global War on Terror and in response to natural and man made disasters.

Cont'd.

Prev.Agn.ref

Dist.

AGENDA NO.

3.165

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

The County of Riverside is the proud home to five California National Guard Armories and multiple Air National Guard units operating out of March Air Reserve base, each of these units provides vital resources and personnel for the mission in Iraq, Afghanistan, and 180 countries around the world and many of these units within the County of Riverside have served as many as four deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, and multiple theatres of operation.

The County of Riverside and the Board of Supervisors has pledged its continued support to The Defense Department's Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve program and has more than 100 employees serving in Guard units.

The Riverside County Board of Supervisor recognizes that providing education benefits earned by service in the California National Guard and the State Military Department are a great benefit to attract and retain our soldiers and airmen in the National Guard. Retaining and attracting soldiers and airmen to the California National Guard is a benefit to cities and counties across the state as its members provide vital support and assistance to civil authorities in time of disaster or emergency.

Therefore, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors urges the Senate and Assembly leadership and members representing the County of Riverside to support the California National Guard Education Assistance Program and the 3.5 million dollars the Governor is requesting for the appropriation. The Board of Supervisors also directs the County's advocate in Sacramento to convey its support to the Governor, legislature, and key appointed staff.



Bob Buster
Supervisor, 1st District

BB:si