

SYNOPSIS: Return County Veterans Service Office Grant to the Original 1973 Intent

INTRODUCED BY: Executive Committee

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Columbia County:

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Office has operated as a block-grant for CVSO salary supplement since legislative inception in 1973, to attract and retain CVSO talent, and as a means to fund improvements to CVSO veterans services in the county; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Wisconsin Biennium Budget restructured this long-standing CVSO Grant block grant payment structure to a reimbursement-only payment structure, and has resulted in a very cumbersome program that no longer allows salary supplementation, and contains complicated rules of eligible reimbursable costs, which together now create very troubling fiscal constraints on the poorest of Wisconsin counties that benefitted fiscally from the previous block grant payment structure; and,

WHEREAS, the previous block grant payment structure of the CVSO Grant was weighted unfavorably against the smallest and poorest Wisconsin counties and weighted more favorably towards the most populous and affluent Wisconsin counties; and,

WHEREAS, the smallest and poorest of Wisconsin counties statistically have a significantly higher percentage of veterans in their aggregate general population; indicating the available county revenue is at a significant fiscal disadvantage to the larger more affluent Wisconsin counties in supporting their veteran population with veterans services.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the County of Columbia joins other counties in the State of Wisconsin, to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature to have the County Veterans Service Office Grant returned to the original 1973 intent to be used strictly for supplementing the salary of County Veterans Service Officers in order to attract and retain talented personnel in those positions, and to restructure the payment structure in order to better advantage the poorest Wisconsin counties with higher veteran population concentrations in attracting and retaining talented personnel in these positions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all of Columbia County's State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Officer Association.

FISCAL NOTE: None.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA
CERTIFIED COPY

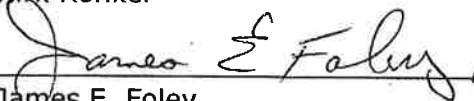
I certify that this is a true and exact copy of the original of which I am legal custodian for the County Clerk of Columbia County.

Signed by


County Clerk or Deputy County Clerk

5.19.16
Date


Kirk Konkel


James E. Foley


JoAnn Wingers, Secretary


Mary Cupery, Vice Chair


Vern E. Gove, Chair
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE