

RESOLUTION 2906

Resolution offered by the Veterans Service Commission.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Iron County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office block grant was created in 1973 to assist counties in providing veterans' services and allowing them to utilize these funds for salary supplement of the County Veterans Service Officer or other costs as long as it was for the benefit of veterans and did not go to another department or into the county general fund; and

WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office grant was originally conceived as a block grant structure and was based upon employment of a full-time County Veterans Service Officer and the aggregate population in each county; and

WHEREAS, although there were no specific standards ever established by the state Department of Veterans Affairs as to proper usage of grant funds, grant applications were prepared annually by counties, submitted to the state, and also approved by the state each year; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Wisconsin Biennium Budget restructured this long-standing block grant payment structure to a reimbursement-only payment structure, strictly limiting what grant funds can be used for and resulting in a very time-consuming, cumbersome process for not only the County Veterans Service Office but other county departments as well.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Iron 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 reinstated to the original 1973 intent to be used for supplementation of CVSO salary or for improving services to county veterans.

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

Adopted by the County Board of Supervisors this 30th day of August, 2016

By:

Attest:



Joseph Pinardi, Iron County Board Chair



Michael Saari, Iron County Clerk