

**Resolution No. 45-20**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE  
COMMITMENT TO VETERANS SUPPORT AND OUTREACH ACT**

ROLL CALL Board Members	Aye	Nay	Excu.
Olson			
Route			
Warndahl			
Nelson (Chairperson)			
LaBlanc			
Ruck			
Prichard			
Kelly			
O'Connell			
Middleton			
Luke (2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair)			
Duncanson			
Arcand			
Bonneprise (Vice Chair)			
Demulling			

**BOARD ACTION**

Vote Required: Majority Vote of a Quorum

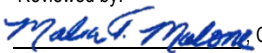
Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote

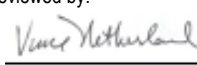
Motion to Approve: \_\_\_\_\_ Adopted  X

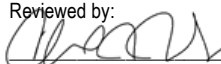
1st Warndahl \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated

2nd Middleton \_\_\_\_\_

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ Excu: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by:  Corp. Counsel

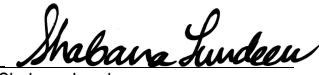
Reviewed by:  , Administrator

Reviewed by:  , Finance

**FISCAL & LEGAL IMPACT:**

**Certification:**

I, Shabana Lundeen, Deputy Clerk of Polk County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 20th day of October, 2020 by the Polk County Board of Supervisors.

  
Shabana Lundeen  
Deputy County Clerk, Polk County

**Committee** Health & Human Services

Recommended

Not Recommended

Neutral

1 **TO THE POLK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

2

3 **WHEREAS**, the number of veteran suicides continues to rise  
4 nationwide, and approximately 14 out of 20 veterans who currently die by  
5 suicide are not under United States Department of Veterans Department of  
6 Veterans Affairs' (VA) care; and

7 **WHEREAS**, County Veterans Service Officers (CVSO) and Tribal  
8 Veteran Service Officers (TVSO) are often the first point of contact in the  
9 local community for veteran's services; and

10 **WHEREAS**, these Officers provide assistance to veterans  
11 regarding a wide range of benefits, including mental health services,  
12 service-connected disability and pension VA benefits, enrollment in VA  
13 health care, VA home loans, education benefits and available job  
14 placement assistance; and

15 **WHEREAS**, veterans are not always aware of available benefits,  
16 and CVSOs/TVSOs are often the first to inform veterans of their eligibility.  
17 CVSO county employees are nationally accredited by the VA to prepare,  
18 present and prosecute VA claims, but currently there is no federal funding  
19 available for CVSOs; and

20 **WHEREAS**, there is legislation pending in the U.S. Congress and  
21 U.S. Senate known as the "*Commitment to Veteran Support and outreach*  
22 *Act*" (the Act). The Act also includes TVSOs. The Act authorizes the  
23 Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with States, and/or to  
24 award grants to States to promote veterans' health and wellness, prevent  
25 suicide, improve outreach to veterans, support activities to assist in the  
26 development and submittal of claims (training), and to create new CVSO  
27 offices in states without CVSOs; and

28 **WHEREAS**, if passed, the Act will authorize \$50 million  
29 annually for five years to support these initiatives, and to provide support to

30 CVSO/TVSO officers who currently assist veterans and their survivors  
31 with obtaining over \$50 Billion in VA benefits annually.

32 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Polk County  
33 Board of Supervisors hereby support the passage of pending legislation in  
34 the United States Congress known as the “*Commitment to Veteran Support*  
35 *and Outreach Act*; and

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Polk County Clerk is  
37 hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to all  
38 Wisconsin Counties, the Polk County Veterans Service Officer, the County  
39 Veterans Service Officer Association of Wisconsin (CVSOAWI), the State  
40 of Wisconsin Department of Veteran’s Affairs (WDVS); the National  
41 Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County  
42 Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO).

**SUBMITTED BY:**

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