



## MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: Oct. 2017)

### Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date:	11/9/17
Agenda Item #:	R.3
Est. Start Time:	10:40 am
Date Submitted:	11/1/17

**Agenda Title: Proclamation Recognizing the Observance of Veterans Day on November 11, 2017 in Multnomah County, Oregon**

<b>Requested Date:</b> November 9, 2017	<b>Time Needed:</b> 20 Minutes
<b>Department/Division:</b> Non-Departmental	<b>Contacts:</b> Callie Love, Policy Advisor, Commissioner Loretta Smith
<b>Phone:</b> 503-988-5219 EXT. 89451	<b>Email:</b> Callie.love@multco.us
<b>Presenters:</b> Kim Douthit, Veterans Service Office/Program Supervisor; Andrez Posada, Program Supervisor representing Multnomah County Employee Resource Group	

### **General Information:**

#### **1. What are you requesting from the Board?**

Adopting a proclamation honoring November 11, 2017, as Veterans Day in Multnomah County, Oregon

#### **2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer(s) this action affects and how it impacts the results.**

November 11th was first named a national holiday when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed it Armistice Day in 1926, commemorating the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I and honoring those who served in that war. Since then, hundreds of thousands of veterans have served their country in the United States Armed Forces. More than 44,000 veterans are residents of Multnomah County.

The Multnomah County Veterans Service Office works to ensure that veterans in the County

and their families receive all State and Federal benefits available to them by providing effective and dedicated representation free of charge. Additionally, multiple other County departments serve veterans through their programs. This year, the County along with our partners on the A Home for Everyone coalition celebrated virtually ending veterans' homelessness in our community.

The military history of African Americans spans from the arrival of the first black slaves during the colonial history of the United States to the present day. There has been no war fought by or within the United States in which African Americans did not participate, including the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War, the Civil War, the Spanish American War, the World Wars, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as other minor conflicts.

The National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS) believes that it is their sacred mission to preserve and protect the history and legacy of contributions made by African Americans in defense of the United States of America. NABVETS notes that African Americans have been recognized for their courage, sacrifice and sense of duty in military conflicts since the time that this country was founded.

NABVETS/Portland Chapter is a nationally certified Veterans Service Organization and a United States Department of Veterans Affairs claims representative. NABVETS has membership and chapters throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, providing personal advocacy on behalf of veterans seeking claims through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. NABVETS' mission includes advocacy for youth and families, community involvement to help create positive lifestyles for veterans, and the empowerment of low-income and minority veterans. NABVETS also works to generate and preserve the historical record.

It is the responsibility of everyone in our community to honor and remember those who have served, and Multnomah County citizens have the resources, skills, and compassion to support service members, Veterans of all generations, and their families.

**3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).**

None

**4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.**

None

**5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.**

Throughout the year, multiple County departments, community organizations, and volunteers partner together to fulfill the commitment to provide improved access for veterans to benefits, employment, housing and health care.

**Required Signature:**

<b>Elected Official/ Department Director:</b>	<b>Loretta Smith /s/</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>11/9/2017</b>
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