



COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICE

GOVERNMENTAL & LEGISLATIVE
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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

June 12, 2014

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2703 (Quirk-Silva) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

The County Board of San Bernardino respectfully requests your signature on AB 2703 introduced by Assemblymember Quirk-Silva. This legislation would authorize the California Department of Veterans Affairs to develop an allocation formula based upon performance to encourage innovation and reward outstanding service provided by County Veterans Service Offices (CVSOs).

In San Bernardino County, our CVSO experienced a 52 percent increase in walk-in clients between 2004 and 2013. CVSO caseloads have also increased by 40 percent—from 330 to 554—in six years. Our CVSO is a highly effective and low-cost solution to the increasing challenges of service delivery to California’s large veteran community. However, CVSOs need increased funding so they can connect with veterans and their dependents who are unaware of the federal benefits available to them and so they can help ensure veterans’ claims are processed in a timely manner.

AB 2703 serves as a vehicle to increase funding to high-performing CVSOs serving veterans in the communities they call home. In addition, bolstering CVSOs will result in more veterans receiving federal benefits, which will help the local and state economies.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully requests your signature on AB 2703. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Board of Supervisors Chair
Second District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: The Honorable Sharon Quirk-Silva, California State Assembly
County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation