

NEWS

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County provides full salaries & benefits to military members

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday again went above and beyond the call of duty in providing full salaries and benefits to county employees serving in the armed forces.

State law requires the county to pay employees on active duty full benefits and the difference between their county salary and their military salary for only their first 30 days of service. The board today voted to extend the benefits and supplemental pay for as long as someone is assigned to active duty.

"These county employees are putting their lives and futures at risk so that we may remain free," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane. "It is a small price for the county to pay to make sure they are also not putting themselves and their families at financial risk while serving our country."

The county began providing benefits and supplemental pay to active-duty military members shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The Board of Supervisors has renewed the program continuously since that time.

Since the program started, 118 county employees have served on active duty and received the extended pay and benefits, which include medical, dental, retirement service credit and contributions, and leave accruals.

There are 10 county employees currently serving on active duty. The county projects that extended pay and benefits will cost \$213,000 per year.