

ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk
101 COURT STREET, MUNISING, MI 49862

RESOLUTION #2013-10

ADVOCATING FOR IMPROVED SERVICE TO VETERANS

WHEREAS, A United States Veteran deserves to be treated with the highest regard for their service to America and her citizens; and

WHEREAS, The workload has more than doubled over the last decade due to wars in Iraq and Afghanistan along with new outreach efforts and presumptive conditions related to Agent Orange exposure; and

WHEREAS, Already over 480,000 (46%) of the more than one million discharged veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have sought care at VA health care facilities; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 congressional Budget Office report notes that the VA no longer has the capacity to adequately serve all current enrollees; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that the Veterans Benefits Administration is over 1,000,000 unprocessed claims and that the average waiting time for veteran's is 18-36 months until they receive their benefits; and

WHEREAS, Statistics show nearly one third of returning veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have a mental health condition; and

WHEREAS, Statistics show one veteran commits suicide every 65 seconds, 69% of them are over 50 years of age, and one in every five suicides in the United States is a veteran; and

WHEREAS, Veterans have fought to defend our nation and our freedoms; they should not need to fight to get the medical services and benefits they deserve; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Alger County Board of Commissioners urges the Federal Government to take immediate action to improve and expedite America's veterans access to deserved benefits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Carl Levin, Senator Debbie Stabenow, Congressman Dan Benishek, Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, State Representative John Kivela, State Senator Tom Casperson, Director Jason Allen DMVA, the National Association of Counties and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Adopted this 17th day of June, 2013.




Jerry Doucette, Chair
Alger County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
County of Alger)

I, Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk of the County of Alger and of the County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting on June 17, 2013.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the County of Alger, this June 28, 2013 at Munising, Michigan.





Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk