



Resolution #17-19

## RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A VETERANS CEMETERY IN ORANGE COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, Orange County is home to approximately 135,000 veterans representing the third largest population of veterans in California and yet, until now, has had no final resting place in our county for veterans so that families wishing to visit a veteran's grave or bury a loved one who has served have few options as other Southern California cemeteries require long travel or are at capacity or with a long waiting list; and

**WHEREAS**, with integrity and in commitment to Democratic Party values committed to serving veterans and their families through concrete actions and not just political rhetoric, Democratic leaders including Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva, Senator Josh Newman, Congressman Lou Correa, Irvine Councilwoman Melissa Fox, and Governor Jerry Brown in partnership with a bipartisan coalition of Veteran leaders, electeds, and residents led the way to establish the first Orange County Veterans Cemetery in Irvine on the grounds of the former El Toro Marine Air Base at a more ideal location that has less traffic impact, saves greater taxpayer dollars and requires less toxic clean-up than the first proposed site; and

**WHEREAS**, a misleading campaign to gather signatures has been launched claiming to "Save The Veterans Cemetery" even though the cemetery has been approved, dedicated and doesn't need "saving" as paid signature gatherers claim; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic Party of Orange County strongly supports the visionary leadership of our local Democratic elected officials and veterans' leaders to establish the Veterans Cemetery at its current site; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Democratic Party of Orange County opposes the misleading tactics and communication with Irvine residents by the referendum proponents to initiate a zoning change, the effect of which would likely eliminate the development of a Veterans Cemetery in Orange County.



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Submitted by Resolutions Committee members Carina Franck-Pantone, Diana Lee Carey, Tony Bedolla, Jeff LeTourneau, Jonathan Adler, Congressman Lou Correa, and Senator Josh Newman.

**Adopted by the Democratic Party of Orange County  
At its November 27, 2017 Central Committee Meeting**