KERN COUNTY / Veterans Service

Jose Lopez
DIRECTOR

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Board of Supervisors
Kern County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA. 93301

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT GRANT FROM The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to support veteran businesses and entrepreneurs
Fiscal Impact: $100,000 Revenue; General Fund; Not Budgeted; Discretionary

The purpose of this letter is to request your Board's approval to accept a $100,000 grant award from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz). The funds will be administered by the Kern County Office of Veterans' Services and used to provide grants to veteran-owned businesses and aspiring veteran entrepreneurs. The program is intended to support local economic development by assisting veterans in establishing, growing, and sustaining successful businesses, while promoting entrepreneurship and expanding economic opportunities for the veteran community.

Assembly Bill (AB) 113 amends the FY 2026-27 Budget Act to appropriate $100,000 to the Kern County Office of Veterans' Services for grants supporting veteran-owned businesses and entrepreneurial ventures, with program administration provided through the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz). The funding is intended to promote economic opportunities for veterans by supporting business formation, expansion, and long-term sustainability within Kern County. GO-Biz will oversee grant administration and compliance with applicable State requirements while coordinating with the Kern County Office of Veterans' Services to establish program criteria, identify eligible recipients, and ensure funds are used to advance local economic development objectives. Eligible applicants will include veteran-owned businesses and veteran entrepreneurs seeking to start, grow, or strengthen their operations in Kern County.

Therefore, IT IS RECOMMENDED that your Board approve and authorization to the Veterans Department to accept grant from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to support veteran businesses and entrepreneurs and authorize the Veteran Service Officer to sign all grant application documents, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel.

Sincerely,

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