



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held December 2, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“On November 7, 2003, California Congressmembers Jane Harman and Randy ‘Duke’ Cunningham jointly sponsored H.R. 3480 titled ‘Memorial to Noncitizens Patriots Act.’ This measure would require the construction at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, a memorial to noncitizens killed in the line of duty while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

“There is a long history of noncitizens serving in the Armed Forces. Noncitizens have been engaged in American battles since the Colonial period. According to one recent study, more than 20% of the 3,400 members of the Armed Forces that have been awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation’s highest military honor, were immigrants, though the precise number of noncitizens who received this award is not known. Today, 36,177 members of the Armed Forces are noncitizens, making up about 5% of active duty members, and 12,132 members of the Selected Reserve are noncitizens. These men and women proudly wear the uniform of our country and have fought and died for defending our freedoms.

“Recently, a young Lomita resident, Cody Prosser, a proud Marine born in Guatemala was one of the first casualties to die in Operation Iraqi Freedom. H.R. 3480 would require the Secretary of the Army in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to construct a memorial in an appropriate site in Arlington National Cemetery at a cost not exceeding \$500,000 to pay tribute and salute all noncitizens who have been killed in the line of duty over a two-century period while serving in the Armed Forces.”

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in support of H.R. 3480 (Cunningham and Harman), legislation which would require the Secretary of the Army, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to construct a memorial at an appropriate site in Arlington National Cemetery, at a cost not to exceed \$500,000, to pay tribute and salute all noncitizens who have been killed in the line of duty over a two-century period while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America; and
2. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to send a letter to President Bush, Senators Feinstein and Boxer and the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation urging their support and early enactment of H.R. 3480.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

County Counsel

Director of Military and Veterans Affairs

Letter sent to:

Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham