

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN
AND HILDA L. SOLIS

AGN. NO. _____
August 4, 2026

Declaring Los Angeles County a Purple Heart County

Los Angeles County (County) is home to one of the largest veteran populations in the nation. Throughout our history, countless County residents have answered the call to serve in the United States Armed Forces, defending our nation's freedoms with courage, honor, and selfless dedication.

Among these heroes are recipients of the Purple Heart, one of the nation's oldest and most distinguished military decorations. Originally established by General George Washington in 1782 as the Badge of Military Merit and reestablished in 1932 as the Purple Heart Medal, the award recognizes members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or killed in action while serving our country. Communities across California and the nation have chosen to formally recognize these extraordinary sacrifices by becoming Purple Heart Cities and Counties, reaffirming their commitment to honoring combat-wounded veterans and the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The Military Order of the Purple Heart encourages local governments to adopt these recognitions as a lasting tribute to our nation's heroes.

The County has long demonstrated its commitment to veterans through investments in housing, healthcare, behavioral health services, employment assistance, and veterans' advocacy. Designating the County as a Purple Heart County is a

MOTION

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Declaring Los Angeles County a Purple Heart County

meaningful opportunity to further recognize the extraordinary sacrifices made by Purple Heart recipients and their families while strengthening public awareness of their service and sacrifice on the 250th year of our country's founding.

This designation carries no significant fiscal impact beyond any future commemorative signage or ceremonial recognition and serves as a lasting symbol of the County's gratitude to those who have shed blood in defense of our nation. The Military Order of the Purple Heart recommends that jurisdictions adopting the designation coordinate with local chapters to celebrate the recognition and install appropriate signage.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors suspend Section 22.1 of the Rules of the Board for the limited purpose of considering this motion.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Declare Los Angeles County a Purple Heart County, honoring all members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or killed in action while serving our nation.
2. Adopt a resolution declaring Los Angeles County a Purple Heart County.
3. Direct the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA), in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and the Military Order of the Purple Heart, to develop appropriate recognition opportunities, including the installation of Purple Heart County signage at key County entry points and facilities, subject to available funding and applicable permitting requirements.
4. Direct DMVA to work with the Military Order of the Purple Heart and local veterans organizations to identify opportunities to recognize Purple Heart recipients through annual commemorative events, educational outreach, and veterans recognition

Declaring Los Angeles County a Purple Heart County

ceremonies.

5. Direct the DMVA in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer to provide a written report back to the Board within 90 days with recommendations for implementation of the Purple Heart County designation, including potential signage locations, estimated costs, and opportunities for partnerships with veteran's service organizations.
6. Direct the Director of the Department of Arts and Culture and the Director of the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs to work together on the following actions to honor the service and sacrifice of Los Angeles County veterans:
 - a. Relocate the statue of General George Washington from the Lincoln Room on the second floor of Bob Hope Patriotic Hall to the Purple Heart Inn located in the basement of the facility. The relocation shall be executed with appropriate care for the historic artifact, including professional conservation assessment, secure and dignified installation, and the addition of interpretive signage that explains the thematic connection between General Washington's leadership and the sacrifices of combat-wounded veterans recognized by the Purple Heart.
 - b. Design, fabricate, and install a dignified plaque, memorial wall, or other appropriate permanent honorific display in the Purple Heart Inn that honors every Purple Heart recipient who is a resident of Los Angeles County. The design shall provide for the comprehensive and respectful recognition of all such recipients, with consideration given to verification processes, privacy

Declaring Los Angeles County a Purple Heart County

- protections for living recipients where appropriate, sustainability, and the capacity for future additions or updates as new recipients are identified.
- c. Develop a comprehensive implementation plan that includes proposed design concepts, fabrication and installation specifications, a detailed timeline, cost estimates, potential funding sources (including departmental resources, private philanthropy, grants, or other appropriate mechanisms), and identification of any required approvals or permits.
 - d. Report back to the Board of Supervisors in writing within 120 days on directives 6(a), 6(b), and 6(c), with the implementation plan, design recommendations, cost estimates, and any additional actions or funding requests required for Board consideration and approval.
 - e. This directive recognizes the profound significance of placing the image of our nation's founding military commander in the space dedicated to Los Angeles County's combat-wounded veterans, while creating a lasting and comprehensive tribute to every Purple Heart recipient from our community. The Author's intent is that these actions will strengthen Bob Hope Patriotic Hall's role as a premier center for honoring military service and sacrifice.

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RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DESIGNATING THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AS A PURPLE HEART COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles has great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community in the U.S. Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy, or posthumously awarded to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed or die of wounds received in action; and

WHEREAS, in 1782, the Purple Heart was first established by then General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, George Washington as the Badge of Military Merit to be awarded to any soldier, regardless of rank, who performed a singularly meritorious action; and

WHEREAS, in 1932, the Military Order of the Purple Heart was formed for the protection and mutual interest of all who have received the distinguished award; their mission being to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives, and provide services to all veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2012, the State of California became the first state to designate itself a "Purple Heart State," in recognition of the sacrifices of Californian veterans, especially those who were wounded or killed in the line of duty with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles and its citizens wish to honor and thank the County's veterans who have been wounded or killed in the line of duty for their selfless sacrifice to the United States of America, the State of California, and the County of Los Angeles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct and made part of this Resolution;
2. The County of Los Angeles hereby proclaims its designation as a Purple Heart County by the Military Order of the Purple Heart and is honored to carry this title in tribute to all our service personnel serving at home and abroad; and
3. The Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors shall attest and certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution, and it shall become effective immediately upon this approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

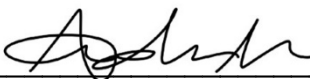
The foregoing resolution was on the _____ day of _____ 2026, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles.

EDWARD YEN
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN R. HARRISON
County Counsel

By:  _____
Deputy County Counsel

