



NEWS RELEASE

Supervisor Michael J. Rubio, Fifth District
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Immediate Release
August 25, 2009

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Supervisor Rubio Proposes “Veterans Vacancy” for Military Personnel Employed by County of Kern

Action would protect County employees serving in active military from layoffs

At this morning’s Board of Supervisors meeting, Kern County Supervisor Michael Rubio proposed creating a “Veterans Vacancy” position within County government to ensure job security to County employees actively serving in the military. This action would assert that the County should not impose a break in their service when they are providing the ultimate service and sacrifice.

During the annual budget hearings earlier this summer, the Board of Supervisors affirmed its strong belief that County employees deployed overseas in active military service should not risk losing their County employment during these difficult times. In particular, Supervisor Rubio proposed creating a distinct class of employee status position—tentatively termed “Veterans Vacancy”—whereby active military personnel called upon to serve while employed by the County of Kern would indeed be able to return to employment once back in civilian life.

“Though state and federal law do offer some layoff protections to our employees when serving in the military, I firmly believe that they do not go far enough,” Supervisor Rubio noted. “Families of service members should not have to worry about whether or not their loved one will be employed once back home, nor should active military personnel be distracted by these issues when they are helping protect our homeland. Also, we must ensure that these brave heroes do not suffer employment breaks in service, thereby impacting retirement and other benefits in the years to come.”

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WHAT: Media Availability

WHEN: Tuesday, August 25th (Immediately after morning closed session)
Call 661-378-1456 to receive callback when morning closed session has ended.

WHERE: Supervisor Michael Rubio’s Office (Suite 505)