



RESOLUTION

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON

VOTE YES ON ADVISORY QUESTION CONCERNING RESTORING FULL SERVICES AT ROSEBURG VA HOSPITAL


The Douglas County Board of Commissioners Find:

- a) As your Douglas County Board of Commissioners, we steadfastly support and honor all of our United States Armed Forces veterans and our veteran communities in Douglas County. In fact, our county motto on our welcome sign states, "We Honor Veterans!"
- b) We believe wholeheartedly that we owe a great debt to our veterans for their service and sacrifice to this great nation. We believe that they have earned their health benefits and they deserve to have them provided.
- c) On August 8, 2022, we placed an advisory question (Ballot Measure 10-192) on the 2022 November ballot to determine voter attitudes on whether full services should be restored at the Roseburg Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital.
- d) The Douglas County Board of Commissioners **strongly support and encourage Douglas County voters to vote "Yes" on the question, "Do you believe that full services should be restored at the Roseburg VA Hospital?"** A "yes" vote means that you believe that full services should be restored at the Roseburg VA Hospital.
- e) Numerous veterans regularly use and desperately rely upon health care services provided by our Roseburg VA Health Care System. However, some veterans in Douglas County do not believe they are getting the health care they have not only earned but were promised and rightfully deserve.
- f) Since 2010, veterans and other community members in Douglas County have been fighting a campaign aimed at "saving" the Roseburg VA Health Care System, and restoring services that have since been moved elsewhere. We fully support the continued efforts of the "**Save the Roseburg VA Campaign**" and their members. Since the closure of the ICU at the Roseburg VA in 2009, supporters of the campaign have expressed concern about the continued loss and threat of loss of other medical services, as well as outsourcing to other medical systems.
- g) According to **Save the Roseburg VA Campaign** committee member and retired US Naval Chief Warrant Officer, James Little, "*Our veterans do not want gold-plated health care, we want reasonable, accessible health care! We're not saying, 'we need better health care than our fellow citizens,' we simply want equal health care as our fellow citizens.*"
- h) According to the State of Oregon's statistics on veterans, as of July 2022, Douglas County is ranked third in the state in terms of the percentage of residents who are veterans. In fact, many veterans moved to Douglas County specifically because of access to deserved and earned services provided by the Roseburg VA Hospital.

Therefore, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners Resolve:

1. A steadfast commitment to support our veterans and our veteran communities.
2. A steadfast commitment to support the Save the Roseburg VA Campaign and the restoration of FULL services at the Roseburg VA Hospital for our veterans.
3. To steadfastly encourage our residents to **VOTE YES** on the advisory question of whether we should restore FULL services at our Roseburg VA Hospital. (Ballot Measure 10-192)

DATED THIS 12th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2022



Commissioner Tim Freeman, Chair



Commissioner Chris Boice



Commissioner Tom Kress

