

**RESOLUTION
CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD**

Whereas, the United States Congress allowed all U.S. veterans access to Department of Defense Morale, Welfare and Recreation lands and programs up until 1974 and authorizes which patrons are eligible to access these lands; and

Whereas, military retirees, reservists and the 165,252 disabled veterans with 100% service-connected disability are granted use of MWR lands; and

Whereas, civilian employees and their families on military bases are entitled to enjoy use of MWR lands, and military base commanders allow selected community based groups access to MWR lands; and

Whereas, Section 2813 of Public Law 105-261 of the Sikes Act 16 USC Section 670c known as the American Disabled Sportsman Act also specifically states that veterans disabled as a result of military service-connected injuries were to have access to rehabilitate on these MWR lands; and

Whereas, DOD has willfully and purposely interpreted the term disabled veteran listed in the Sikes Act to mean disabled veterans with 100% service-connected disabilities only; and

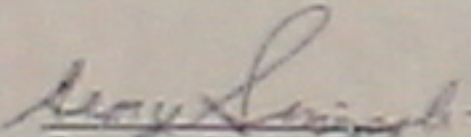
Whereas, the Sikes Act also allows up to 30 civilians with disabilities access to these MWR lands; and

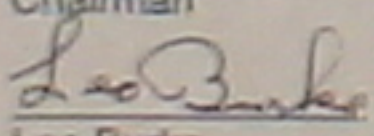
Whereas, some 2.3 million disabled veterans, rated with up to 90% service-connected injuries by the U.S. Veterans Administration, are not currently eligible under present policy and/or DOD rules and regulations which has resulted in violation of civil rights for the majority of America's disabled veterans who are in effect banned from the usage of these MWR lands when they come home from war; and

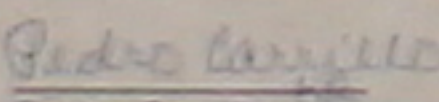
Whereas, this nation's 2.3 million disabled veterans have surely earned the right to utilize those MWR land over any civilian groups; now

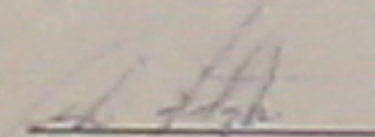
Therefore, be it resolved that the California Veterans Board supports federal legislation that will give this nation's 2.4 million disabled veterans highest priority before granting any other group usage of MWR lands.

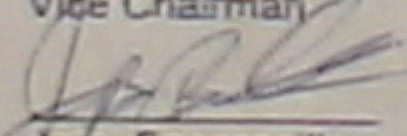
*Approved by the California Veterans Board
Subscribed this 17th day of June 2000*

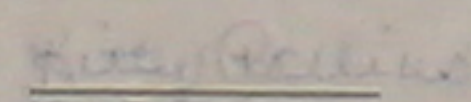

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