

February 26, 2019

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Thompson
United States House of Representatives
406 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Feinstein and Representative Thompson:

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to thank you for reintroducing legislation that would direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to enter into an agreement with the City of Vallejo for the transfer of the Mare Island Naval Cemetery. Solano County is pleased to endorse this important measure (S. 127 & H.R. 578).

As you know, the Mare Island Naval Cemetery is the oldest military cemetery on the entire West Coast. In fact, the cemetery dates back to the mid-1800s and is a unique site that houses the remains of several prominent historical figures, as well as hundreds of military veterans and their families. Unfortunately, over the years, the cemetery has fallen into a state of disrepair, which is unbefitting for the individuals who are buried at this sacred location.

Pursuant to your legislation, control of the cemetery would be transferred from the City of Vallejo to the VA where it would be placed under the purview of the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). Such a move would allow the NCA to undertake much-needed repairs while at the same time ensuring that the cemetery is maintained at a level that is commensurate with its historical significance.

Thank you again for introducing this important piece of legislation. We look forward to working with you to ensure that this bill is enacted into law.

Sincerely,

Erin Hannigan, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

cc: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs