

**PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE TO FILE 15-0708  
FPD Real Estate Committee 3/22/2016**

**Sponsored by:** LUIS ARROYO JR, County Commissioner, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, County Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF VETERAN MEMORIALS HONORING THOSE WHO FOUGHT AND DIED IN OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, AND OPERATION NEW DAWN**

**WHEREAS**, the freedoms we enjoy as Americans have been demonstrated through the patriotic commitment and sacrifice of many veterans from Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County veterans are owed a great debt of gratitude for serving in defense of this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the sacrifices of our veterans have to often ended in permanent injury or death, yet their spirit remains in the continued promise and perseverance of liberty for all the oppressed individuals throughout our world; and

**WHEREAS**, over 2 million members of the United States Armed Forces have been deployed to warzones since the commencement of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn; and

**WHEREAS**, many have been deployed for multiple tours of duty. More than 5,500 troops have been killed while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, and tens of thousands have been seriously wounded in the line of duty; and

**WHEREAS**, in honor of these dedicated citizens of Cook County, the Cook County Forest Preserve Commissioners wishes to memorialize the enduring efforts of our veterans by commemorating benches dedicated to those that fought and paid the ultimate sacrifice as a lasting symbol to the principles of freedom and democracy.

**WHEREAS**, family members, friends and those of every walk of life may have a sanctuary, to reflect on those that have made the ultimate sacrifice and those still serving.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, it is hereby decreed by the Cook County Forest Preserve Commissioners that park bench memorials be constructed and built on Cook County Forest Preserve land; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Memorials shall be dedicated to each of the military operations post-9/11 that were meant to ensure our freedom and security and that these benches be placed in a way and a place that will honor our soldiers and their commitment to our country; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that those United States Armed Service heroes from Cook County, that have fallen during the line of duty post-9/11 shall have their name inscribed on these memorials.