

**RESOLUTION 2013-1
SUPPORT FOR FULL CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING FOR STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES
CONSTRUCTION MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, State Veterans Homes were founded for veterans after the American Civil War and have ably served disabled veterans for nearly 150 years; and

WHEREAS, every State operates at least one State Veterans Home, and more State Veterans Homes and beds and other programs within them are planned or projected annually to meet a growing demand for long term care programs and facilities for American's elderly, sick and disabled veterans; and

WHEREAS, The State Veterans Home program has proven itself to be the most cost-effective source of high quality long-term health care services for the nation's veterans who need skilled nursing, domiciliary, adult day health care and other specialized programs to meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) promotes the care and treatment of veterans in State Veterans Homes as an important means to attain its goal of developing, providing and maintaining the highest quality of care for eligible veterans; and

WHEREAS, Subchapter III of Chapter 81, Title 38, United States Code, authorizes the State Extended Care Facilities Grant Program, funded by VA through Congressional appropriations, to assist the States through grants for construction of new State Veterans Homes and for significant renovations of existing facilities, at a cost not to exceed 65% of the total cost of any such project proposed by a State and approved by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, there are \$322 million in Priority One projects and \$752 million total in grant applications awaiting funding; and

WHEREAS, the President's Administration request for an \$85 million State Home Construction Grant Program appropriation for next year will not keep up with the States' pace of grant applications for construction of new State Veterans Homes and significant renovation and modernization projects at existing homes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association of State Veterans Homes (NASVH) supports full annual funding, at minimum an amount of \$100 million, for the State Extended Care Facilities Grant Program, in order for the Department of Veterans Affairs and the several States to further reduce the structural backlog of worthy projects pending funding during Fiscal 2013.

LORI S. MONTGOMERY, MBA, LNHA, ALA
President
National Association of State Veterans Homes
Dated this 26th Day of February, 2013