



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 2020-1139, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

**Department or Agency Name(s):** Board of Supervisors and Human Services Department

**Staff Name and Phone Number:** Number: Supervisor Shirlee Zane, 707-565-2241

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**Supervisory District(s):** Third District

### **Recommended Action:**

Adopt a Gold Resolution recognizing Crista Barnett Nelson as the 2020 Carroll L. Estes Older Adults Advocacy Award recipient.

### **Executive Summary:**

In April 2018 Sonoma County's Aging Together Steering Committee established an annual award to honor an outstanding individual in the field of aging. The First recipient of the Carroll L. Estes Older Adults Advocacy Award was presented to Carroll Estes in April, 2018.

### **Discussion:**

Every year the Aging Together Steering Committee awards the Carroll L. Estes Older Adults Advocacy Award to a community champion who has demonstrated exemplary advocacy on aging issues. Nominated individuals are recognized for their work in promoting or initiating programs and policies that benefit older adults locally, regionally or nationally.

The recipient of the Carroll L. Estes Older Adults Advocacy Award for 2020 is Crista Barnett Nelson.

- Crista Barnett Nelson is the Executive Director of the Senior Advocacy Services in Sonoma County.
- Senior Advocacy Services has 3 programs that all work to advocate for the rights and dignity of those experiencing health and aging challenges.
  - Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program or HICAP
  - Elder Justice Initiative, and
  - Long Term Care Ombudsman
- The Long Term Care Ombudsman advocates for the rights of over 5,000 seniors living in the nearly 200 long-term care facilities in Sonoma County.
- Along with the more than 1000 complaints that the Ombudsman program responds to every year, their work has been significantly impacted by national and local disasters.
  - During the most recent Glass Fire in Sonoma County, Crista heard about the dire need of long term care facilities being evacuated to shelters with no place to go. At 3 o'clock in the morning she rushed to the shelters to help devise a plan with the facilities to best keep their vulnerable population safe. She kept at it for days until every resident had an alternative option.
  - The Coronavirus has impacted every community, but arguable the worst in long-term care facilities where we've seen an extreme disproportion of deaths. Sonoma County is no exception. Crista has been steadfast in her advocacy and efforts to help find desperate solutions. She has met with the owners of these facilities, participates in county-wide

workgroups and taskforces, she has provided letters to elected and state officials and she has had countless calls advocating for change and offering herself as a resource. Almost all of these actions are above and beyond her regular duties.

- Crista is a fierce and extremely caring advocate and her tireless efforts truly make a difference to the quality of life and care for the people living in these facilities.

#### Prior Board Actions:

May 21, 2019 - Board approved a Gold Resolution recognizing Herman J. Hernandez for his work to elevate the voices of Sonoma County's Latino residents.

May 8, 2018 - Board approved a Gold Resolution honoring Carroll Estes on the occasion of her 80th birthday and for her many years of research and advocacy on Social Security and Medicare policy, health reform, long term care, and elder women's economic and health security.

April 17, 2018 - Board adopted a resolution establishing the Carroll L. Estes Older Adults Advocacy Award and awarding it to Carroll L. Estes.

June 4, 2013 - Board recognized Carroll Estes on the Occasion of her 75th Birthday for her many years of research and advocacy on Social Security and Medicare policy, health reform, Long Term Care, and Elder Women's Economic and Health Security.

#### FISCAL SUMMARY

Expenditures	FY 20-21 Adopted	FY21-22 Projected	FY 22-23 Projected
Budgeted Expenses			
Additional Appropriation Requested			
<b>Total Expenditures</b>			
<b>Funding Sources</b>			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal			
Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance			
Contingencies			
<b>Total Sources</b>			

#### Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)	Additions (Number)	Deletions (Number)

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**Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):**

**Attachments:**

Gold Resolution

**Related Items “On File” with the Clerk of the Board:**