



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **CalVet Celebrated Women Veterans History Week in California March 18-24, 2013**

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. has proclaimed Women Veterans History Week in California, March 18-24, 2013 to honor their courage and sacrifice in defense of our nation.

“Currently, women make up 14% of the active duty U.S. Armed Forces and 18% of the Guard and Reserves. Women also make up 8 percent of the total U.S. veterans population and 10 percent of the veterans population in California,” said Peter J. Gravett, CalVet Secretary. “Nationally and statewide, the women veteran population will continue to grow. Therefore, it is imperative that we remember to recognize and honor their service and contributions, as they often face unique challenges when transitioning out of the military and back into our communities.”

In honor of this week-long celebration, CalVet invites you to take a moment to reflect on the many positive contributions women have made to the history of our country and to the progress of our society. Women’s rights and equality benefit all of us, not just the female gender.

In honor of California’s Women’s Military History Week from March 18 – 24, CalVet especially asks that Californians remember and honor the contributions women have made to our Armed Forces and in defense of this country.

Women have bravely served in every major U.S. conflict and have been Prisoners of War and Purple Heart recipients revealing their dedication, patriotism and courage. They served in the American Revolution and in the U.S. Civil War, often dressed as men so that they would be allowed to fight.

Please see attached copy of the Governor’s proclamation.

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