PRESS RELEASE

VLB RECEIVES OVER 1 MILLION FOR EXPANSION OF TEXAS STATE VETERANS CEMETERY AT ABILENE

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AUSTIN — Today, Chairman of the Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB) and Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has awarded a grant of $1,316,263 to the Veterans Land Board for expansion and improvements to the Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Abilene in Abilene, Texas. The grant will fund the construction of 1,400 columbarium niches, signage, irrigation, landscaping, and supporting infrastructure on approximately one acre, enabling the cemetery to provide continued service for approximately 26,002 Veterans and their eligible family members.

“The expansion of the Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Abilene will allow the Veterans Land Board to continue serving our Texas heroes,” said Commissioner George P. Bush. “It is our honor to provide a dignified and reverent final resting place for those who put their lives on the line for our country. The Abilene community ensures that our Veterans are not forgotten, and I am pleased to work with the VA to expand and improve the cemetery.”

Texas State Veterans Cemeteries provide special resting places, close to home, where friends, family members and the nation can honor their service. Burial benefits at Texas State Veterans Cemeteries are identical to those for VA National Cemeteries.”

The Department of Veterans Affairs is the lead federal agency responsible for meeting the needs of service members, veterans, and their families. The mission of the VA is to honor all who served by providing for their care andburial needs. For more information, visit www.veteransaffairs.gov or call 1-888-468-VETS (8387).