



California State Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs



2017 Summary of Legislation

Josh Newman, Chair
Jim Nielsen, Vice Chair

Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

Senator Josh Newman (Chair)

Senator Jim Nielsen (Vice Chair)

Senator Bill Dodd

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OUR MISSION

To honor, legislate and advocate on behalf of all who have worn our nation's military uniform and defended our nation – past, present, and future.

2017 Annual Legislative Summary and Status Of Veteran and Military-Related Bills

Introduction

This publication contains information about bills introduced into the California State Legislature during calendar year 2017, which is the first year of the current 2017-2018 biennial legislative session. Prepared by the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, the publication lists all significant bills, which pertain to veterans and military affairs.

Many of the listed bills already have been fully enacted by the Legislature and Governor, while others are still only partway through the legislative process. Most of these “partway” bills, often called “two-year bills,” are still alive and may be considered during 2018, the second year of the biennial session. In early 2018, members of the Senate and Assembly also will introduce more bills.

Whether “two-year bills” introduced in 2017 or new “one-year bills” introduced in 2018, all measures must be passed by both houses of the Legislature and signed by the Governor prior to the end-of-year legislative deadlines in late 2018.

In October 2018, the Committee on Veterans Affairs will publish an updated, final version of this document which reflects the full 2017-2018 biennial session.

How to Use This Information

For more detailed information, you may look up a listed bill by going to the Senate’s Internet home page at <http://senate.ca.gov/>

Once there, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the FIND LEGISLATION button. You then will be able to search for a given bill and review the following:

- Full text of the proposed law.
- How all legislators voted on the measure in committee or on their house floor.
- The legislative history of the bill (when introduced, each committee stop, all votes, etc.)
- All published committee and floor analyses on the measure. (Explains in lay language what the bill does, who it affects, estimated costs, organizations that support or oppose the bill, etc.)
- How current law would be changed if the proposed law is enacted.
- Current status of the bill at this moment in its legislative lifecycle.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Senate Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs consists of seven senators appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. The Committee Chair oversees the agenda of each hearing, directly supervises each hearing, and directs the Committee staff.

The Committee's responsibilities are as follow:

1. To consider legislative measures, pertaining to military and veterans issues, which may be referred to the Committee for review and vote; to help modify (by amendment) the bills, and to vote on whether the measures should continue on in the legislative process.

Adopted by the entire 40-member Senate, Senate Rule 12 establishes every Senate committee and its jurisdiction. Senate Rule 12 states that the Committee on Veterans Affairs shall consider bills "relating to veterans, military affairs, and armories" . . . and bills "amending the Military and Veterans Code."

2. To perform legislative oversight of existing executive branch agencies and programs that implement ongoing military and veteran programs previously enacted into law by the Legislature. This includes holding oversight and information hearings on issue areas that fall within the Committee's assigned jurisdiction. The Veterans Affairs Committee has direct oversight of all programs managed by:
 - a. The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), which manages programs such as the CalVet Farm and Home Loan Program and the network of eight state veterans homes; and
 - b. The California Military Department, which oversees the California National Guard, State Military Reserve, State Active Duty program, Oakland Military Institute (charter school), California Cadet Corps, Youth ChalleNGe programs, and which coordinates with the Governor's Office of Emergency Service (CalOES) in emergency response to natural disasters and civil unrest.
 - c. The Committee also oversees veteran-related programs managed by other agencies – including, for example, the veteran employment programs managed by the Employment Development Department, the statewide Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE) program centrally administered by the Department of General Services, the various veterans educational benefits provided by California public institutions of higher education (UC, CSU, community colleges), and the Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention (VHHP) program jointly administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development, California Housing Finance Agency, and CalVet.

At the Committee's home page at <http://svet.senate.ca.gov/>, you may review current and historical agendas for bill and oversight hearings. Most have audio and/or video available.

California State Legislature
**Bills Pertaining to
Veterans and Military Affairs**

Legislative Year 2017
(Biennial Session 2017-2018, as of October 15, 2017)

Prepared by
Senate Veterans Affairs Committee
Senator Josh Newman, Chair

ASSEMBLY MEASURES

AB 85 (Rodríguez)

General assistance: employable veterans.

This bill enacts the “General Assistance ‘Thank You for Your Service’ Act of 2017.” The bill requires counties to exclude an eligible employable veteran from the existing prohibition against receiving general assistance/general relief (GA/GR) for more than three months in any 12-month period. The bill also allows a county to opt out of the extended eligibility period for GA to eligible veterans by enacting an ordinance, by July 1, 2018, stating that an eligible veteran is subject to the three month limitation.

- Senate Veterans Affairs – Held w/o hearing or recommendation.

AB 153 (Chávez)

Military fraud.

This bill modifies the language of the California Stolen Valor Act to conform to the federal Stolen Valor Act of 2013.

- Enacted - Chapter 576, Statutes of 2017.

AB 172 (Chávez)

Public postsecondary education: residency: dependents of armed forces members.

This bill expands the current eligibility for resident classification extended to enrolled dependents of an Armed Forces member who transfer or retire to include admitted dependents of the Armed Forces member, for purposes of determining postsecondary institution tuition and fees.

- Enacted - Chapter 165, Statutes of 2017.

AB 226 (Cervantes & Chávez)

Teacher credentialing: spouses of active duty members of the Armed Forces: expedited application process.

The bill requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to grant or deny a completed application for a credential within seven days of receipt if the applicant holds a valid teaching credential in another state and is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in this state.

- Enacted - Chapter 436, Statutes of 2017.

AB 242 (Arambula & Patterson)

Certificates of death: veterans.

This bill requires a certificate of death to indicate whether the deceased person was a member of the Armed Forces so that the Department of Public Health may compile data on veteran suicides.

- Enacted - Chapter 222, Statutes of 2017.

AB 296 (Quirk-Silva)

Task force: health of women veterans.

This bill requires CalVet to establish a task force to study the health of California women veterans.

- Vetoed by Governor.

AB 331 (Eggman & Gloria)

County recorders: veterans: recorded documents.

This bill requires county recorders to record any military discharge document, including a veteran's service form DD214, and maintain it in a nonpublic index.

- Enacted - Chapter 399, Statutes of 2017.

AB 353 (Voepel)

Employment policy: voluntary veterans' preference.

This bill enacts the Voluntary Veterans' Preference Employment Policy Act and authorizes a private employer to establish a veterans' preference employment policy.

- Senate Judiciary Committee – Failed passage; reconsideration granted.

AB 360 (Muratsuchi)

The State Bar: pro bono legal assistance: veterans.

This bill requires the State Bar to administer a program to coordinate pro bono civil legal assistance to veterans and their families who otherwise cannot afford legal services.

- Enacted - Chapter 401, Statutes of 2017.

AB 363 (Quirk-Silva)

Driver's licenses: veteran designation.

This bill prohibits the Department of Motor Vehicles from charging the one-time \$5 fee to a person applying for a driver's license or identification card with a veteran designation if the applicant is eligible to obtain an original or replacement card at a reduced fee or is homeless and can verify his or her status as such.

- Enacted - Chapter 579, Statutes of 2017.

AB 365 (Muratsuchi)

Pupil instruction: coursework and graduation requirements: children of military families.

This bill extends to students from military families certain rights regarding exemptions from local graduation requirements and acceptance of partial credit which are currently afforded to other groups of highly mobile students.

- Enacted - Chapter 739, Statutes of 2017.

AB 365 (Muratsuchi)

Pupil instruction: coursework and graduation requirements: children of military families.

This bill extends to students from military families certain rights regarding exemptions from local graduation requirements and acceptance of partial credit which are currently afforded to other groups of highly mobile students.

- Enacted - Chapter 739, Statutes of 2017.

AB 376 (Chávez)

Veterans benefits: veteran farmers or ranchers

This bill requires by July 1, 2018, the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the California Department of Veterans Affairs, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture to post information on their respective Web sites to assist, educate, train, and otherwise support California's military veterans to enter into farming or ranching careers in California.

- Enacted - Chapter 188, Statutes of 2017.

AB 386 (Gonzalez-Fletcher)

Legal services for deported veterans.

This bill requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), subject to annual funding, to provide legal services to deported veterans through a contract, as specified. This bill authorizes CDSS to include post-conviction relief services to deported veterans in the contract. This bill establishes the Veteran Reentry Assistance Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, to accept donations from private foundations and other philanthropic entities to expand the number of individuals who may be provided legal services, as specified.

- Senate Third Reading – Inactive File.

AB 431 (Bigelow)

Armories: homeless shelter.

This bill generally requires the Adjutant General of California, upon request by a county or city, to make state-owned militia armories available to serve as temporary shelter for homeless persons from October 15 to April 15 each year.

- Vetoed by Governor.

AB 513 (Voepel)

State Military Reserve: uniform and travel costs.

Existing law authorizes a combined uniform and travel allowance to be paid to each volunteer member of the State Military Reserve or Naval Militia, on or before the last day of the month following the volunteer member's completion of one year of satisfactory service in the State Military Reserve or Naval Militia, and annually thereafter following the completion of any subsequent full year of satisfactory service. Existing law set the amount of this allowance at \$125 per year. This bill would increase the amount of that allowance to \$225 per year.

- Assembly Veterans Affairs – Hearing canceled at request of author.

AB 528 (Gray)

Personal income taxes: exclusion: military retirement pay.

This bill excludes from gross income, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, and before January 1, 2023, retirement pay from the federal government for military service. The exclusion is limited to those military veterans whose gross income, excluding military retirement pay, is \$50,000 or less.

- Assembly Appropriations – suspense file, held.

AB 547 (Chávez)

California Prompt Payment Act: disabled veteran business enterprises.

This bill requires state agencies to pay properly submitted, undisputed invoices from a disabled veteran business enterprise that is also a small business (DVBE/SB) within 30 days of receiving the invoice and makes invoices from dually-certified DVBE/SBs that are not paid within 30 days subject to penalty rates similar to those already paid to SBs.

- Vetoed by Governor.

AB 559 (Santiago)

Community colleges: enrollment fee waiver.

This bill requires the Board of Governors (BOG) of the California Community Colleges, by January 1, 2019, to ensure that students at every community college can complete and submit the BOG fee waiver application electronically.

- Assembly Appropriations – suspense file, held.

AB 632 (Acosta)

Small Business Procurement and Contract Act: small business and disabled veteran business enterprises.

This bill increases the maximum amount for which a state agency can directly contract with a certified small business or a disabled veteran business enterprise from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

- Assembly Appropriations – suspense file, held.

AB 665 (Levine)

Military personnel: veterans: resentencing: mitigating circumstances.

This bill allows a veteran or member of the military who is serving a sentence currently to petition for resentencing if the person can show that he or she suffered from one of specified conditions as the result of the military service, as specified.

- Assembly Appropriations – suspense file, held.

AB 671 (Chávez)

Veterans: services.

This bill authorizes a veterans memorial district to provide services that improve the quality of life for veterans and their families, including, but not limited to, counseling, case management, and employment training and placement.

- Enacted - Chapter 197, Statutes of 2017.

AB 737 (Baker & Melendez)

California Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Modifies and/or extends certain provisions relating to the listing of names on the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the existence and operation of the Memorial Committee.

- Assembly Veterans Affairs – hearing canceled at request of author.

AB 741 (Cervantes)

Community colleges: veterans.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes these districts to provide instruction at the campuses they operate. This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation creating an articulation platform for the California Community Colleges to facilitate the transition of recent veterans to state institutions of higher education.

- Assembly Business & Professions – held w/o hearing.

AB 961 (Quirk-Silva)

Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program.

This bill tightens the existing monitoring and accountability requirements for state procurement activities related to the disabled veteran business enterprise targeted procurement program.

- Vetoed by Governor.

AB 973 (Low)

Remote accessible vote by mail system.

This bill requires a county elections official to permit a voter with a disability, or a military or overseas voter, to cast his or her ballot using a certified remote accessible vote by mail system. Provides that these provisions do not apply to a county that conducts an election using vote centers, instead of polling places, pursuant to the California Voter's Choice Act. Provides for these provisions to become operative on January 1, 2020.

- Vetoed by Governor.

AB 974 (Quirk-Silva)

Mental Health Services Act: reporting veterans spending.

This bill requires counties to report their Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) expenditures spent on mental health services for veterans to the Department of Health Care Services and the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (the Commission).

- Enacted - Chapter 411, Statutes of 2017.

AB 986 (Gallagher)

Hunting and sport fishing licenses: sport fishing license duration: reduction in license fees for veterans.

This bill requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to reduce the fees required to obtain hunting licenses and various sport fishing entitlements for veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States. Additionally, this bill requires sport fishing licenses to be issued for 12 consecutive months.

- Assembly Appropriations – suspense file, held.

AB 998 (Grayson)

Veterans homes: Internet Web site.

This bill requires transparency and modernization of the admissions and waiting list policies for the CalVet Veterans Homes. Specifically, it:

- 1) Requires CalVet to create an admissions page on its Internet Web site for the purpose of increasing transparency in the process for admission to the homes.
- 2) States that the admissions page must incorporate all of the following:
 - a) An online application option for veterans seeking admission to a home.
 - b) A user-friendly wait list showing an applicant's current spot on a home's wait list relative to other applicants, updated whenever there is a change, and with a mechanism that preserves applicant privacy.

- c) Contact information for an applicant to ask for assistance regarding the application process.
- d) Information on the number of veterans currently on the wait list for each level of care at each home.
 - Senate Veterans Affairs – not heard at request of author.

AB 1057 (Weber)

Armories: sales: San Diego Armory.

This bill requires the Director of the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Adjutant General, to offer an option to purchase a portion of the California Military Department's San Diego Armory, as specified, to the San Diego Center for Children (SDCC), a nonprofit organization.

- Enacted - Chapter 147, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1249 (Gray)

Property taxation: exemptions: veterans' organizations.

This bill extends the application of the "veterans' organization" property tax exemption to real property owned by certain veterans' organizations and used for fraternal, lodge, or social club purposes, as specified, excluding the bar area.

- Vetoed by Governor.

AB 1275 (Irwin)

Department of Veterans Affairs: monitoring outcomes for veterans: Director of Employment Development: disclosure of information.

This bill requires CalVet to develop outcome and related indicators for veterans to help assess the status of veterans and veteran services in order to improve services.

- Senate Appropriations – suspense file, held.

AB 1355 (Bocanegra)

State parks: fees.

This bill authorizes a state park fee waiver for students of the California Cadet Corps or of a public military academy. Specifically, this bill authorizes the State Parks Department to waive all fees for the use, including camping where permitted, of any unit of the state park system by students of the California Cadet Corps or of a public military academy in exchange for completing a community service project at the unit that has been approved in advance by state park officials and staff of the California Cadet Corps or the academy.

- Enacted - Chapter 212, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1365 (Reyes)

Veterans homes: planning strategy.

This bill requires annual financial reporting, as specified, on the state veterans homes by CalVet, and regular review and planning on the use of veterans homes.

- Enacted - Chapter 509, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1403 (Obernalte)

Military and overseas voters.

This bill permits a military or overseas voter who has moved after the closing date of registration to register to vote. Specifically, it:

1) Permits a military or overseas voter to apply in person to the voter's elections official for permission to register after the closing date of registration if the military or overseas voter is required to move under official active duty military orders after the closing date of registration.

2) Requires an elector who seeks permission to register pursuant to this bill to furnish a copy of his or her official military orders in order to be registered.

- Enacted - Chapter 797, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1618 (Cervantes)

Veteran service providers.

This bill establishes a competitive grant program for California veteran service providers (VSPs) and a process for certifying VSPs which apply to participate in the competitive grants.

- Enacted - Chapter 416, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1709 (Committee on Veterans Affairs)

Armories: sales: local agencies.

This bill amends the current armory sale process to require that an armory be offered for sale to a local agency, as defined, prior to being offered for sale to private entities or individuals.

- Enacted - Chapter 304, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1710 (Committee on Veterans Affairs)

Prohibited discrimination against service members.

This bill expands existing protections for military servicemembers in their civilian workplaces to include protection against hostile work environments.

- Enacted - Chapter 591, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1711 (Committee on Veterans Affairs)

State military reserve personnel: leave benefits.

This bill grants to members of the State Military Reserve the right to be granted military leave, rights and benefits accrued during that service, and reinstatement after that service by their appointing power on the same basis as members of the California National Guard or other military reserve personnel.

- Enacted - Chapter 92, Statutes of 2017.

ACR 41 (Bonta)

Bataan Death March Veterans Commemoration Day.

This resolution designates April 9, 2017, and every April 9 thereafter, as Bataan Death March Veterans Commemoration Day.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 40, Statutes of 2017.

ACR 67 (Aguiar-Curry)

Veterans' Memorial Highway.

Designates a portion of State Route 29 in the City of Yountville as the "Veterans' Memorial Highway."

- Senate Rules – Pending referral.

ACR 70 (Salas)

Staff Sergeant Ricardo "Ricky" Barraza Memorial Highway.

This resolution designates a portion of State Route 43 in the City of Shafter in the County of Kern as the Staff Sergeant Ricardo "Ricky" Barraza Memorial Highway.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 134, Statutes of 2017.

ACR 79 (Salas)

Blue Star Mothers of America Month.

This resolution recognizes May 2017 as Blue Star Mothers of America Month and encourages all residents of the state to take some time during May to honor and recognize the dedication and sacrifice of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 71, Statutes of 2017.

ACR82 (Chávez, et. al.)

Armed Forces Day

This resolution honors and recognizes the service and sacrifice made by members of the Armed Forces and their families on the occasion of Armed Forces Day on May 20, 2017.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 82, Statutes of 2017.

ACR 110 (Gloria)

City of San Diego's Naval Training Station.

Designates specified exits on Interstate 5 (I-5) as the routes for reaching the historic Naval Training Station in the City of San Diego.

- Senate Rules – Pending referral.

ACR 112 (Choi)

Korean American veterans of the Vietnam conflict.

This resolution commends Korean American veterans of the Vietnam conflict for their service to the United States.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 201, Statutes of 2017.

ACR 114 (Bloom)

World War I commemoration.

This resolution proclaims support for the mission of the California World War One Centennial Task Force, by designating the time period between August 5, 2017, and November 11, 2018, inclusive, to be observed as the commemoration period of the 100th anniversary of the United States' involvement in World War I.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 149, Statutes of 2017.

ACR 120 (Salas & Acosta)

Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day.

This resolution proclaims September 24, 2017, as Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day in California.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 169, Statutes of 2017.

AJR 5 (Medina)

Military Lending Act

This resolution urges the United States Congress to prevail upon the Department of Defense to realign its criteria for the safe harbor provision in the Military Lending Act in order to avoid the requirement of a social security number. The resolution also makes specific legislative findings.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 207, Statutes of 2017.

AJR 22 (Low)

Transgender service members.

This resolution urges Secretary of Defense James Mattis to allow transgender individuals to serve in the United States military and calls on Governor Brown to direct the California National Guard and other state military forces to take no action that discriminates against transgender service members, unless required by federal law or formal directive from the United States Department of Defense.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 209, Statutes of 2017.

HR 45 (Holden)

Desegregation of the Armed Forces.

This resolution recognizes July 26, 2017, as the 69th anniversary of the desegregation of the United States Armed Forces.

- Adopted by the Assembly.

SENATE MEASURES

SB 3 (Beall)

Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018.

This bill enacts the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018 and authorizes the issuance of \$4 billion in general obligation (GO) bonds for affordable housing programs and a veteran's home ownership program, subject to approval by the voters in the November 6, 2018 election.

- Enacted - Chapter 365, Statutes of 2017.

SB 27 (Morell)

Professions and vocations: licenses: military service.

This bill would require every board within the Department of Consumer Affairs to grant a waiver of the application and the initial licensing fee to an honorably discharged veteran.

- Senate Appropriations – suspense file, held.

SB 156 (Anderson)

Military and veterans: transition assistance: citizenship.

This bill requires CalVet and California National Guard to provide specified assistance to military-affiliated noncitizens, as specified, to help them acquire United States citizenship.

- Enacted - Chapter 497, Statutes of 2017.

SB 197 (Bates & Atkins)

Sales and use taxes: exemption: military and veteran medical facilities.

This bill establishes a sales and use tax (SUT) exemption for building materials and supplies purchased by a qualified nonprofit, or a contractor or subcontractor working with a qualified nonprofit, for use in the construction of a United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facility or a medical facility located on a United States military base. This exemption applies to purchases made between April 1, 2017 and January 1, 2023.

- Assembly Appropriations – suspense file, held.

SB 266 (Dodd)

Armed service members: consumer loans.

This bill updates provisions of the Banking Law, Credit Union Law, Finance Lenders Law, and Deferred Deposit Transaction Law to reflect new federal lending rules applicable to members of the military and their dependents.

- Enacted - Chapter 514, Statutes of 2017.

SB 330 (Berryhill)

Building permit fees: waiver.

This bill permits a locality to waive or reduce all building permit fees for improvements to the home of a veteran with a qualifying disability that are made to accommodate that disability.

- Enacted - Chapter 281, Statutes of 2017.

SB 339 (Roth)

Veterans treatment courts: Judicial Council assessment and survey.

This bill requires the Judicial Council, contingent upon funding, to conduct a statewide study of veterans and veterans treatment courts, as specified, and to report its findings to the Legislature.

- Enacted - Chapter 595, Statutes of 2017.

SB 404 (Stone)

Property taxation: senior and disabled veterans.

This bill would (1) eliminates the inflation adjustment for the principal place of residence of income-eligible veteran taxpayers over the age of 65, and (2) expands to a full exemption the current partial disabled veterans' property tax exemption.

- Senate Appropriations – suspense file, held.

SB 409 (Nguyen)

Veterans' homes: services: complex mental and behavioral health needs.

This bill requires CalVet to conduct a survey to assess the ability of veterans' homes to assist veterans with complex mental and behavioral health needs and to develop a plan to accommodate that population.

- Assembly Appropriations – suspense file, held.

SB 410 (Nguyen)

Civil service: veterans' hiring preference: active duty members.

This bill modifies the State Civil Service Act for the purpose of assisting active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces in applying for veterans' preference in state hiring. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Authorizes the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) or the designated appointing authority to use a document signed by the applicant's commanding officer of the military to verify the applicant's military service.
- 2) Requires CalHR, before an active-duty applicant enters state service with the benefit of the veterans' preference, to require a DD-214 military discharge form as proof of eligibility for veterans' preference.
 - Enacted - Chapter 237, Statutes of 2017.

SB 411 (Nguyen)

State military reservists: service awards.

This bill establishes the State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award Act and makes a \$100,000 appropriation to provide a monthly award to qualified volunteers in the State Military Reserve or the Naval Militia, as specified.

- Senate Appropriations – suspense file, held.

SB 455 (Newman)

Pupil enrollment: military dependents.

This bill amends the residency requirements for dependents of active-duty military personnel, by specifying that dependents of military personnel meet the residency requirement for attending a school, if the parent is transferred or pending transfer to any military installation in California.

- Chapter 239, Statutes of 2017.

SB 485 (Nielsen)

State veterans homes.

This bill requires CalVet to:

- 1) Adopt statewide policies and procedures, by regulation, for operation of the state veterans home system;
- 2) Implement a statewide electronic health records system; and
- 3) Correct and update outdated terminology and references within the portion of the Military and Veterans Code that governs state veterans' homes.
 - Assembly Veterans Affairs – pending hearing.

SB 694 (Newman)

California Community Colleges: Veteran Resource Centers.

This bill requires the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges to ensure that each of its campuses provides a dedicated on-campus Veteran Resource Center that offers services to help student veterans transition successfully from military life to educational success.

- Assembly Veterans Affairs – pending hearing.

SB 725 (Jackson)

Veterans: pretrial diversion: driving privileges.

This bill specifies that a trial court can grant military pretrial diversion on a misdemeanor charge of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (DUI).

- Enacted - Chapter 179, Statutes of 2017.

SB 728 (Newman)

State public employees: sick leave: veterans with service-related disabilities.

This bill permits state employees – who are members of the National Guard or federal military reserves – who return to state service from active military mobilization with service-connected disabilities, to receive 96 hours of additional, pre-banked sick leave dedicated to treatment of those conditions.

- Enacted - Chapter 596, Statutes of 2017.

SB 731 (Newman)

Public school employees: former or current members of the Armed Forces of the United States or California National Guard: leave of absence for illness or injury.

This bill grants to current classified and certificated school employees – who are former active duty members of the United States Armed Forces or who are former or current members of the National Guard or a federal military reserve component, and who have a qualifying service-connected disability – additional, pre-banked paid leave to undergo medical treatment for their service-connected disabilities.

- Enacted - Chapter 597, Statutes of 2017.

SB 747 (Newman)

State military: officer commissions.

This bill repeals the requirement that commissioned officers of the California National Guard must reside within California in order to retain their state military commissions, and generally authorizes CalGuard officers to transfer to other reserve organizations after they make permanent changes of address outside of California.

- Enacted - Chapter 221, Statutes of 2017.

SB 776 (Newman)

Corrections: veterans' benefits.

This bill (1) requires CalVet to assign employees to state prisons to assist incarcerated veterans in applying for and receiving federal benefits for which they may be eligible, and (2) requires CalVet and the Department of Corrections to grant the CalVet employees access to computer systems and incarcerated veterans as necessary for the performance of their duties, while taking specified safety precautions.

- Enacted - Chapter 599, Statutes of 2017.

SCR 4 (Nguyen)

Month of the Military Child.

Declares the month of April 2017 as the Month of the Military Child and urges all Californians, local and state leaders, private organizations, and businesses to observe the month by showing appreciation to the children and youth of military and veteran families, including children of the fallen, for standing by their parents and loved ones who are serving or have served as members of the Armed Forces of the United States.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 32, Statutes of 2017.

SCR 53 (Fuller)

National Military Appreciation Month.

This resolution recognizes May 2017 as National Military Appreciation Month and honors the men and women who have served and are serving in our nation's military.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 152, Statutes of 2017.

SCR 55 (Newman)

Purple Heart Day.

This resolution declares August 7, 2017, as Purple Heart Day in California.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 176, Statutes of 2017.

SCR 61 (Nguyen)

Veterans of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Day.

This resolution proclaims June 19, 2017, as Veterans of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Day in honor of the sacrifices, commitment, dedication, and courage of everyone who fought for the freedom of the Republic of Vietnam.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 98, Statutes of 2017.

SCR 65 (Newman)

Military and Veteran Suicide Prevention Awareness Week.

This resolution makes legislative findings and proclaims September 3, 2017, to September 9, 2017, inclusive, as Military and Veteran Suicide Prevention Awareness Week in California.

- Adopted by the Legislature - Res. Chapter 180, Statutes of 2017.

SR 25 (Galgiani)

Women's Military History Week

This resolution recognizes "Women Warriors" by proclaiming the week of March 13, 2017, to March 19, 2017, inclusive, as Women's Military History Week in California.

- Adopted by the Senate.

SR 49 (Bradford)

Desegregation of the Armed Forces

This resolution recognizes July 26, 2017, as the 69th anniversary of the desegregation of the United States Armed Forces.

- Adopted by the Senate.



**California State Senate
Committee on Veterans Affairs**

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