

SENATE VETERANS COMMITTEE
SENATOR MARK WYLAND, CHAIRMAN

VETERANS BILL LIST FOR LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2007-08

Updated November 10, 2015

SENATE MEASURES

SB – 14 Negrete McLeod *Retirement: military service*

Would allow members of the California National Guard (CNG) to qualify for membership in the California Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), and to purchase additional PERS service credit. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 355, Statutes of 2007))

SB – 159 Wyland *California Prompt Payment Act: disabled veteran business enterprises*

This bill adds "disabled veteran business enterprise" (DVBE) to the definition of small business, found within the California Prompt Payment Act (Government Code Section 927, et seq.), so that certified DVBEs receive the same prompt payment protections afforded other California small businesses. ((Assembly Appropriations))

SB – 374 Harman *Military service: benefits*

This bill requires all boards, bureaus, and commissions under the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to waive the fees for any professional license issued to any qualified member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the spouse of a qualified member. ((Senate Appropriations))

SB 386 Cogdill *Vehicles: special license plates*

This bill exempts from various fees vehicles owned by the surviving spouse of a former prisoner of war (POW) or Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. In addition, it allows the family of a deceased former POW or Congressional Medal of Honor recipient to keep a special interest license plate as a remembrance. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 357, Statutes of 2007))

SB – 457 Wyland *Veterans: postsecondary education*

Existing law authorizes the California Veterans' Educational Institute, which is under the management and control of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to provide opportunities for veterans to continue their education. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to that provision. ((Senate Rules))

SB – 560 Wiggins *Veterans' Home of California: adequacy of services: report*

This bill would require the Legislative Analyst to submit a report, as provided, that assesses the adequacy of services provided to the blind and visually impaired residents at the various sites of the Veterans' Home of California. ((Assembly Inactive File))

SB – 565 Wiggins *Veterans' Home of California: Hospital and Health Services Administrator*

This bill would require, at the Veterans' Home of California, Yountville, a hospital and health services administrator, as specified, who would be responsible for specified medical and health services. ((Vetoed))

SB – 599 Negrete McLeod *California Mexican American Veterans' Memorial Beautification and Enhancement Committee*

This bill repeals the current composition of the California Mexican American Veterans' Memorial Beautification and Enhancement Committee and replaces it with a new Committee established by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and comprised of one appointment each from the Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate President Pro Tempore, and five appointees from the Governor. ((Chapters by Secretary of State. Chapter 558, Statutes of 2007))

SB 607 Wiggins *County veterans institutions*

This bill adds the United States Air Force personnel to the definition of those veterans eligible for use of the veterans homes in California. ((Assembly))

SB – 630 Aanestad *Veterans Homes*

Authorizes \$30 million in lease revenue bonds for the construction and completion of two new veterans' homes in Fresno and Shasta counties. The bill went into effect on July 27, 2007. ((Chapters by Secretary of State. Chapter 154, Statutes of 2007))

SB – 663 Senate Veterans Affairs *National defense*

Prevention Act of 1950 and includes definitions for terms therein, including a definition for "defense preparation." This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to this provision. ((Senate Rules))

SB – 664 Senate Veterans Affairs *Veterans' benefits: Department of Veterans Affairs*

Existing law authorizes the California Veterans' Educational Institute, which is under the management and control of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to provide opportunities for veterans to continue their education. Existing law authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to work with authorized agencies of the United States in providing those opportunities. This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to this provision. ((Senate Rules))

SB – 665 Senate Veterans Affairs *Veterans' benefits: Veterans' Farm and Home Purchase Act of 1943*

The Veterans' Farm and Home Purchase Act of 1943, administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, provides veterans with the opportunity to acquire farms and homes. Existing law provides that when a veteran has been authorized by the department to select a farm or home, the veteran shall submit the selection to the department, as provided. This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to this provision. ((Senate Rules))

SB – 829 Wyland *Veteran benefits*

The Veterans' Farm and Home Purchase Act of 1974 authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to assist veterans in acquiring homes and farms by generally providing that the department may purchase a farm or home which the department then sells to a purchaser, as defined. Existing law limits the amount that the department may expend for purchasing a mobile home that is to be sited in a mobile home park, as defined, to \$125,000. This bill would raise the amount that the department may expend for purchasing a mobile home that is to be sited in a mobile home park to \$175,000. Existing law requires the department to charge an interest rate that is 1% higher for mobile homes that are sited in a mobile home park, as defined, than that which is charged to purchasers of conventional housing or certain mobile homes on a lot owned by a purchaser. This bill would instead authorize the department

to charge an interest rate at a minimum of 1% higher than the interest charged to purchases of conventional housing or certain mobile home on a lot owned by a purchaser. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 562, Statutes of 2007))

SB – 904 Battin *Public records: military service*

This bill would require the county recorder, when furnishing an informational copy of a military service record, to alter that record by obliterating the service member's personal information, as specified, without incurring any liability. This bill would also make conforming changes to other provisions of law relating to public records. ((Vetoed))

SB – 983 Correa *National Guard: education benefits*

This bill creates the California National Guard Education Assistance Program for the purpose of providing reimbursement to members of the National Guard for postsecondary education costs. ((Assembly Veterans Affairs))

SB – 1041 Senate Veterans Affairs *State militia*

This bill adds the State Military Reserve to the definition of those militia units that are not part of the unorganized militia. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 102, Statutes of 2007))

SB 1220 Cedillo *Housing: Multifamily Housing Program: veterans*

This bill allows sponsors of permanent supportive housing projects funded under the Multifamily Housing Program to restrict occupancy to veterans who have barriers to social reintegration. ((Senate Transportation and Housing))

SB 1222 Cedillo *County Veteran Service Officers: funding*

Fund the state share of CVSO funding at an aggregate rate of three dollars per California Veteran. A legislative finding that it is "an efficient and reasonable use of state funds" considering the benefits derived to fund CVSOs. ((Senate Appropriations))

SB 1229 Maldonado *Vehicles: special license plates: disabled veterans*

This bill would provide for the issuance of special license plates approved by the department for a disabled veteran, as defined. ((Senate Transportation & Housing))

SB 1401 Simitian *Armed Forces: traumatic brain injury screening*

Have the Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA), or a designee, and the Adjutant General, or a designee, develop an outreach plan for best practice traumatic brain injury health screenings for California's returning veterans. ((Senate Appropriations))

SB 1680 Wyland *Student financial aid: Military and Veterans*

Require a veterans' counselor to service veterans' and family members on all CSU and community college campuses. Also requests that UC also have veterans' counselors on all campuses. ((Senate Veterans Affairs))

SB 1778 Committee on Veterans Affairs *County veteran service officers: funding*

This bill would make changes to those findings and declarations by increasing the amount that is annually budgeted for, and that is an efficient and reasonable use of state funds to increase the annual

budget for, county veteran service officers, from \$5,000,000 to \$11,000,000. ((Senate Veterans Affairs))

SJR – 5 Yee *Filipino veterans: benefits*

This resolution requests that the Congress and the President of the United States enact the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2007. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State. Res. Chapter 76, Statutes of 2007))

SJR – 6 Kehoe *Military: "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy*

This measure would urge the Congress and the President of the United States to adopt the Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2007 (H.R. 1246) that institutes a policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation, and to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State. Res. Chapter 63, Statutes of 2007))

*Note: Bills Designated “Secretary of the Senate” are no longer active measures.

ASSEMBLY MEASURES

AB 7 - Lieu *Armed service members: consumer loans*

This bill requires that businesses licensed in California to provide deferred deposit transactions (DDT)--commonly referred to as payday loans--must comply with recently passed federal laws relating to the extension of credit to members of the armed services and their dependents. Specifically, this bill:

1) Specifies that any lender who violates federal law in regard to a DDT or consumer loan to members of the military is also in violation of California law. 2) Allows the Department of Corporations (DOC) to enforce provisions of the federal law on entities licensed in California. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 358, Statutes of 2007))

AB 59 – Soto *California State Military Museum and Resource Center*

This bill increases the annual statutory General Fund appropriation, from \$100,000 to \$225,000, for operation by a non-profit foundation of the California State Military Museum and Resource Center, and makes it a continuous appropriation. Moves the date, when the museum foundation is to submit its annual business plan, from January 10 to May 15. ((Assembly Appropriations))

AB – 138 Bass *Vehicles: veterans: parking*

This bill allows a vehicle displaying special license plates associated with certain classes of military veterans to be parked free of charge in a variety of restricted public parking spaces. Free parking is provided to vehicles displaying the following special license plates: 1) Pearl Harbor Survivor Plates. 2) Legion of Valor Plates. 3) Former American Prisoner of War (POW) Plates. 4) Congressional Medal of Honor Plates. 5) Purple Heart Plates. ((Senate Appropriations))

AB - 187 Nakanishi *Veterans*

This bill increases the amount paid by the county towards the burial of an indigent veteran to three hundred fifty dollars. Specifically, this bill: 1. Increases the amount paid by the county towards the burial of an indigent veteran to \$350 with the funds coming from a county's general fund; 2. Increases to \$350 the amount paid by county toward the burial cost of a veteran who was interred by someone other than a person designated by the board of supervisors; 3. Mandates the grave sites of veterans be maintained in decent order; 4. Allows a fraternal or benevolent organization to apply to the Board of Supervisor to have the board care for a plot in which a soldier is buried. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State – Chapter 380, Statutes of 2007))

AB - 257 Anderson *Parks: veterans: park passes*

Eliminates the one-time \$3.50 fee disabled war veterans currently pay to the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) to receive a state parks pass, enabling disabled veterans to receive these passes for free. Also makes a veteran who is a recipient of a Congressional Medal of Honor eligible to receive a free pass. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 129, Statutes of 2007))

AB – 296 Salas *Military and veterans*

This bill would require the Governor's Advisory Council on Military Affairs, to study the critical issues facing veterans and members of the National Guard, and to make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on actions that may be necessary to support and otherwise attend to the needs of those men and women that serve or have served in the National Guard or United States Armed Services, as specified. This bill would require the council to report to the Governor and the Legislature

on or before January 1, 2009, concerning its initial findings and recommendations. ((Assembly Veterans Affairs))

AB – 389 Salas *County veteran service officers: funding*

This bill appropriates \$5 million from the General Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs as an augmentation to funding for county veterans service officers (CVSOs). ((Assembly Appropriations))

AB - 392 Lieu *Military service: benefits*

This bill requires employers to allow employees who are spouses of certain members of the Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserves up to 10 days of unpaid leave while the member is home on leave. In order to qualify for this leave: 1) The member of the Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserves must have been deployed during a period of military conflict in a combat zone or combat theater. 2) The employee must work for the employer 20 hours or more per week and not be an independent contractor. 3) The employee must provide reasonable advance notice of intention to take the leave, and must submit written documentation that the spouse will be on leave from military deployment. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 361, Statutes of 2007))

AB – 418 Saldana *Vehicles: fees: exemption: deployed National Guard member*

This bill extends, to vehicles owned by members of the California National Guard (CNG) who are temporarily deployed outside the state, the exemption from vehicle registration fees, weight fees, and vehicle license fees (VLF) provided to disabled veterans, former American prisoners of war, and Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. ((Senate Appropriations))

AB – 445 Nava *Vehicles: special license plates: disabled veterans*

This bill establishes a process at the DMV by which an eligible vehicle owner can apply for and receive special license plates that indicate he or she is a disabled veteran (DV). ((Assembly Appropriations))

AB - 540 Garcia *Veterans: welcome home patriotic benevolence payment*

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to make a one-time welcome home patriotic benevolence payment, as specified, to a qualified veteran. This bill would make a continuous appropriation from the General Fund to the department for the 2008-09 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter, for this purpose. This bill would provide for the repeal of these provisions on January 1, 2011. ((Assembly Veterans Affairs))

AB – 581 Salas *Military personnel: Combat Stress Support Team Program*

This bill would require the Military Department to create a Combat Stress Support Team Program, as specified, to provide emergency crisis counseling, referral and personal support, combat stress evaluations, and mental health support for state military personnel and their families. ((Senate Appropriations))

AB - 696 Hernandez *State employees: military benefits*

This bill provides retroactive state payments to certain state employees who were members of the California National guard or a United States military reserve organization, and were ordered into active duty after September 11, 2001. 1) Makes retroactive payments equal to the hazardous duty pay, hostile fire pay, imminent danger pay, or other special incentive pay provided by the federal government

between 2002 and 2005, and which were deducted from state payments at the time. 2) Requires that, to be eligible for the retroactive payment, the individual be employed by the state on or after January 1, 2008. ((Senate Appropriations))

AB – 767 Walters *Student financial aid: veterans and dependents*

Provides a waiver of resident tuition at the University of California (UC), California State University (CSU) and California Community Colleges (CCC) for California residents who have been honorably discharged from the military and exhausted their federal benefits under the federal GI Bill. ((Senate Education))

AB – 866 Davis *National Guard: priority customer service: Department of Motor Vehicles*

This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide priority customer service, as defined, to qualified members of the California National Guard. This bill would require county veteran service officers to inform qualified members of their ability to receive priority customer service at the Department of Motor Vehicles, as provided. ((Assembly Appropriations))

AB – 950 Salas *Public postsecondary education: student residency requirements: active duty military*

This bill extends, from one year to three years, the time period that graduate students, who are members of the Armed Forces and stationed in California on active duty, may receive resident classification, for purposes of paying lower "in-state" student fees at the University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU). ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 362, Statutes of 2007))

AB 1012 Charles Calderon *Property tax exemption: disabled veterans*

This bills amends Revenue & Taxation Code (R&TC) Section 276, which relates to the disabled veterans' exemption, to delete obsolete references to prior exemption amounts that have since been increased, and to correct a transposition error in a statutory cross-reference ((Assembly Rev & Tax))

AB – 1123 Berg *State surplus property: Healdsburg Armory*

This bill authorizes the Department of General Services (DGS), with the approval of the Adjutant General of the Department of the Military, to lease state owned surplus property, known as the Healdsburg Armory, to the City of Healdsburg at fair market value for a term of up to 30 years. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 625, Statutes of 2007))

AB – 1189 Assembly Veterans Affairs *California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program*

This bill requires bidders on state construction contracts to provide the awarding department a copy of their DGS letter of certification, and their DVBE reference number, if the bidder asserts the use of a DVBE to gain a bid preference. The bidder must provide the same information for any subcontractor they propose to utilize in the performance of the contract. The awarding department would also have to verify that the bidder's DVBE certification remained in good standing by checking it against the DGS website. ((Senate Inactive File))

AB - 1387 Sharon Runner *National Guard: benefits*

Authorizes a California resident who is a member of the California National Guard to pay a reduced fee of \$15.62 for a hunting or sport fishing license. Requires the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to create a state parks pass for use by members of the National Guard to park free of charge in any parking facility located within any unit of the state park system. ((Assembly Appropriations))

AB – 1528 Committee on Banking and Finance *Military service*

This bill prohibits any person or entity licensed under the Financial Code to market financial services or products to a service member, or former service member, or the spouse of a service member. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 363, Statutes of 2007))

AB – 1712 Assembly Veterans Affairs *State militia: armories*

This committee bill requires the Military Department to submit an annual report to the Legislature on the status of all California armories. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State – Chapter 742, Statutes of 2007))

AB 1814 DeVore *Veterans: claims*

The bill would authorize the department to compensate any veteran service organization for services rendered that provide for the development of outreach programs for any veteran or dependent or survivor of a veteran that enhance their opportunity to present and pursue claims. The bill would also require the department to annually prepare a report containing specified information regarding the activities of veteran service organizations that have entered into contracts with the department. ((Assembly Veterans Affairs))

AB 1818 Fuentes *Housing: veterans*

Allows sponsors of supportive housing developments to restrict occupancy to veterans with special needs if, among other things, it is on property owned by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Specifically, this bill provides that the sponsor of a supportive housing development may restrict occupancy to veterans, if specific criteria is met. ((Assembly Veterans Affairs))

AB 2577 Salas *Veterans: county veteran service officers*

This bill would make legislative findings regarding the need for county veteran service officers and state veteran service officers with respect to the proposed cuts in the 2008-09 fiscal year budget funding for county veteran service officers and state veteran service officers. ((Assembly))

AB 2670 Salas *Department of Veterans Affairs: qualified residents*

This bill would require the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDLAC) to apply to the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee for the issuance of a private activity bond under the qualified residential rental project program. ((Assembly Housing and Community Development))

AB 2671 Salas *Prisoners: veterans*

Requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to establish an Incarcerated Veterans Transition Program (IVTP) to assist honorably discharged incarcerated veterans in successfully obtaining federal and state benefits. ((Assembly Veterans Affairs))

AB 3067 Committee on Veterans Affairs *Military & Veterans: Veterans' farm and home purchase*

This bill would expand the definition of "home" to include multifamily housing, as defined. ((Assembly Veterans Affairs))

AB 3082 Committee on Veterans Affairs *Veterans: benefits*

This bill would declare legislative intent to implement the Public Assistance and Reporting Information System (PARIS) interstate-federal match to allow the department to identify veterans

enrolled in the Medi-Cal program who could receive medical benefits through the federal Veterans Benefits Administration that would either replace or supplement Medi-Cal benefits. ((Assembly Health))

AB 3083 Committee on Veterans Affairs *Mental Health: veterans*

This bill would require counties to assist veterans in accessing federal services. This bill would provide that a veteran shall not be denied services based on his or her ability to obtain services through another entity as long as the mental health needs of the veteran are not currently being met. The bill would also specifically include post-traumatic stress disorder in the definition of "serious mental disorder." ((Assembly Health))

ACR - 16 Nakanishi *Day of Remembrance*

This resolution declares February 19, 2007, as a Day of Remembrance in order to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the internment of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Res. Chapter 6, Statutes of 2007))

ACR – 22 Benoit and Cook *Armed Forces Freeway*

This measure designates, as the "Armed Forces Freeway," a five-mile stretch of Interstate 215 in Riverside County. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Res. Chapter 106, Statutes of 2007))

AJR – 2 Dymally *Filipino veterans: benefits*

Memorializes the President and Congress to grant full veterans benefits to Filipino veterans of the United States Armed Forces and to make efforts to expedite the reunification of families of World War II Filipino veterans who are awaiting immigration visas in the Philippines. ((Chaptered by Secretary of State - Res. Chapter 122, Statutes of 2007))

*Note: Bills designated “Assembly Chief Clerk” are no longer active measures.

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