

Assembly Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs

2025 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Honorable Pilar Schiavo, Chair



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Jeff Gonzalez, Vice Chair
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**ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
2025 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**

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ALL ASSEMBLY BILLS

2025 CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

AB 81 (Ta) Veterans: Mental Health

Requires the California Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to fund, upon appropriation of the Legislature, an academic study of mental health among women veterans in California, and to submit a report to the Legislature no later than July 31, 2029.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor Gavin Newsom

AB 264 (Carrillo) Veterans: Benefits

Eliminates the prohibition on a child of a veteran, an unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran, or spouse of a disabled veteran, as defined, from receiving a tuition waiver from the state while also accessing other state or federal educational benefits.

Last Action: Ordered to the Inactive File by Senator Archuleta

AB 556 (Patterson) Public Postsecondary Education: Waiver of Campus-Based Fees: Veterans

Adds mandatory campus-based fees to the fees a campus of the University of California, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges is prohibited from charging an eligible dependent of a veteran.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 571 (Quirk-Silva) California Environmental Quality Act: Exemption: Gypsum Canyon Veterans Cemetery

Exempts the proposed Gypsum Canyon Veterans Cemetery in Anaheim, Orange County, from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act. Makes legislative findings regarding the Cemetery. Contains an urgency clause to ensure the provisions of this bill go into immediate effect upon enactment.

Last Action: Chapter 158, Statutes of 2025

AB 826 (Jeff Gonzalez) Veterans' Benefits: Protections

Prohibits a determination of whether a potential tenant is eligible for supportive, affordable, or transitional housing under the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Act from considering a potential tenant's service-connected disability benefits, and modifies definitions of "secondary tenant" to conform to this exclusion.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Judiciary Committee

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AB 901 (Sharp-Collins) Veterans' Preferences: Eligible Spouses.

Adds active duty service members, as defined, to the requirement that whenever any veteran, widow or widower of a veteran, or spouse of a 100% disabled veteran achieves a passing score on a state entrance examination, they will be ranked in the top rank of the resulting eligibility list. Allows authorizing employers to grant a preference in hiring and promotion to an eligible spouse of an active duty service member, veteran, widow or widower of a veteran, or spouse of a 100% disabled veteran. Allows an eligible spouse, as defined, widow or widower of a veteran, or spouse of a 100% disabled veteran to receive the veterans' credit for any selection test generally related to hiring and promotional preferences. Expands the definition of active duty service member to mean a full-time active duty service member of any branch of the uniformed services of the United States.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

AB 1346 (DeMaio) Public Postsecondary Education: Residency: Dependents

Extends the prohibition against losing resident classification at the California State University and the University of California to include student dependents of United States Armed Forces members who can reenroll in their baccalaureate degree program after withdrawing or dropping out, even if the U.S. Armed Forces member has been transferred out of state or retired

Last Action: Held in Senate Education Committee

AB 1412 (Jeff Gonzalez) Special Education: Pupil Transfers: Residency Requirements: Records

Makes changes to special education requirements pertaining to enrollment, records transfer, and comparable services for military-connected students.

Last Action: Chapter 453, Statutes of 2025

AB 1433 (Sharp-Collins) Education Finance: Funding: Noncredit Instruction

Requires the California Community College Board of Governors to allocate base funding to noncredit colleges, and noncredit centers, that meet the specified criteria for designated categorical programs. Clarifies eligible categorical programs for base funding allocations, include, but are not limited to, disabled student programs and services, mental health services, and veteran resource centers. Requires the California Community College Board of Governors, in consultation with the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, to determine the methodology for allocating the base funding.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

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AB 1508(Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs) Governor's Military Council

Extends the sunset of the Governor's Military Council (GMC) until January 1, 2031.

Last Action: Chapter 199, Statutes of 2025

AB 1509 (Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs) Veterans: Educational Assistance

Places the California State Accrediting Agency for Veterans Education under the authority of the California Department of Veterans Affairs. Gives CalVet the ability to administer the program and promulgate, amend, and repeal regulations as necessary to operate the program in accordance with state and federal laws.

Last Action: Chapter 644, Statutes of 2025

AJR 15 (Alanis) The Major Richard Star Act

Urges the United States Congress to pass the Major Richard Star Act to ensure veterans with disabilities receive their full United States Department of Defense retirement pay and United States Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation without offset.

Last Action: Chapter 169, Statutes of 2025

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ALL SENATE BILLS
2025 CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

SB 54 (Umberg) Court Fee Waivers: Veterans

Excludes veteran's disability service-connected compensation from the monthly household income calculation to determine eligibility for a court fee waiver for individuals at 200% or less of the federal poverty level.

Last Action: Chapter 646, Statutes of 2025

SB 55 (Umberg) State Parks: Facilities Pass: Gold Star Family Members

Requires the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), upon presentation of eligibility, to issue a pass to a Gold Star Family member entitling the bearer to the use of all facilities in the State Park system.

Last Action: Chapter 773, Statutes of 2023

SB 56 (Seyarto) Property Taxation: Disabled Veterans' Exemption: Household Income

Excludes service-connected disability income as household income when determining if the low-income veterans' property tax exemption applies. Makes conforming changes and adds reporting requirements. Sunsets to January 1, 2026 existing tax law provisions relating to disabled veterans' exemption and recasts these provisions effective January 1, 2036.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee

SB 67 (Seyarto) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: Eligibility: Dependent of Members of the Armed Services Stationed outside of California

Expands eligibility for the Cal Grants and Middle Class Scholarship Program to include dependents of a member of the United States Armed Forces who maintain California as their state of legal residence even if the dependent did not graduate from a California high school and who otherwise meets all other applicable eligibility requirements.

Last Action: Chapter 648, Statutes of 2025

SB 296 (Archuleta, Valladares) Property Taxation: Exemption: Disabled Veteran Homeowners

Expands the current partial Disabled Veterans' Property tax exemption to a full exemption.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee

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SB 621 (Grove) Voter Registration: Military and Overseas

Allows the vote by mail ballot of a military or overseas voter to arrive up to three days after the election and still be counted, provided that the ballot is postmarked by the United States Postal Service or the Military Postal Service Agency on or before Election Day.

Last Action: Chapter 101, Statutes of 2025

SB 694 (Archuleta, Cervantes) Deceptive Practices: Service Members and Veterans

Provides additional protections for veterans in California regarding fees charged for assistance in applying for veterans' benefits and the privacy of their information. Requires, consistent with federal law, that persons be federally accredited before preparing, presenting, or prosecuting a veteran's claim for benefits under the laws administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs under federal law.

Last Action: Re-referred to Senate Rules

SB 798 (Rubio) Veterans

Increases the amount from \$350 to \$1,000 that a board of supervisors (BoS) of any county is allowed to grant for financial assistance, relief, and support for the burial or cremation of any indigent veteran.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

SB 855 (Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs) State of Armories

Authorizes the Director of the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Adjutant General of the California Military Department, to transfer, exchange, or sell seven specified properties throughout the state,

Last Action: Chapter 461, Statutes of 2025

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APPENDIX A-1: ASSEMBLY BILLS BY BILL NUMBER

Measure	Author	Subject	Statuses
AB 81	Ta	Veterans: Mental Health	Vetoed by Governor Gavin Newsom
AB 264	Carrillo	Veterans: Benefits	Ordered to Inactive File
AB 556	Patterson	Public Postsecondary Education: Waiver of Campus-based Fees: Veterans	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 571	Quirk-Silva	California Environmental Quality Act: Exemption: Gypsum Canyon Veterans Cemetery	Chapter 158, Statutes of 2025
AB 826	Jeff Gonzalez	Veterans' Benefits: Protections	Held in Assembly Judiciary Committee
AB 901	Sharp-Collins	Veterans' Preference: Eligible Spouses	Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs
AB 1346	DeMaio	Public Postsecondary Education: Residency: Dependents of Members of the Armed Forces: Reenrollments	Held in Senate Education Committee
AB 1412	Jeff Gonzalez	Special Education: Pupil Transfers: Residency: Requirements: Records	Chapter 453, Statutes of 2025
AB 1433	Sharp-Collins	Education Finance: Funding: Noncredit Instruction	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 1508	AMVA	Governor's Military Council	Chapter 199, Statutes of 2025
AB 1509	AMVA	Veterans: Educational Assistance	Chapter 644, Statutes of 2025

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APPENDIX A-1: ASSEMBLY BILLS BY BILL NUMBER

Measure	Author	Subject	Statues
AJR 15	Alanis	The Major Richard Star Act	Chapter 169, Statutes of 2025

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A-2: SENATE BILLS BY BILL NUMBER

Measure	Author	Subject	Statutes
SB 54	Umberg	Court Fee Waivers: Veterans	Chapter 646, Statutes of 2025
SB 55	Umberg	State Parks: Facilities Pass: Gold Star Family Members	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
SB 56	Seyarto	Property Taxation: Disabled Veterans' Exemption: Household Income	Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee
SB 67	Seyarto	Student Financial Aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: Eligibility: Dependents of Members of the Armed Services stationed outside of California	Chapter 648, Statutes of 2025
SB 296	Archuleta, Valladares	Property Taxation: Exemption: Disabled Veteran Homeowners	Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee
SB 621	Grove	Voter Registration: Military and Oversea Voters	Chapter 101, Statutes of 2025
SB 694	Archuleta, Cervantes	Deceptive Practices: Service Members and Veterans	Re-referred to Senate Rules
SB 798	Rubio	Veterans	Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
SB 855	SMVA	Sale of Armories	Chapter 461, Statutes of 2025