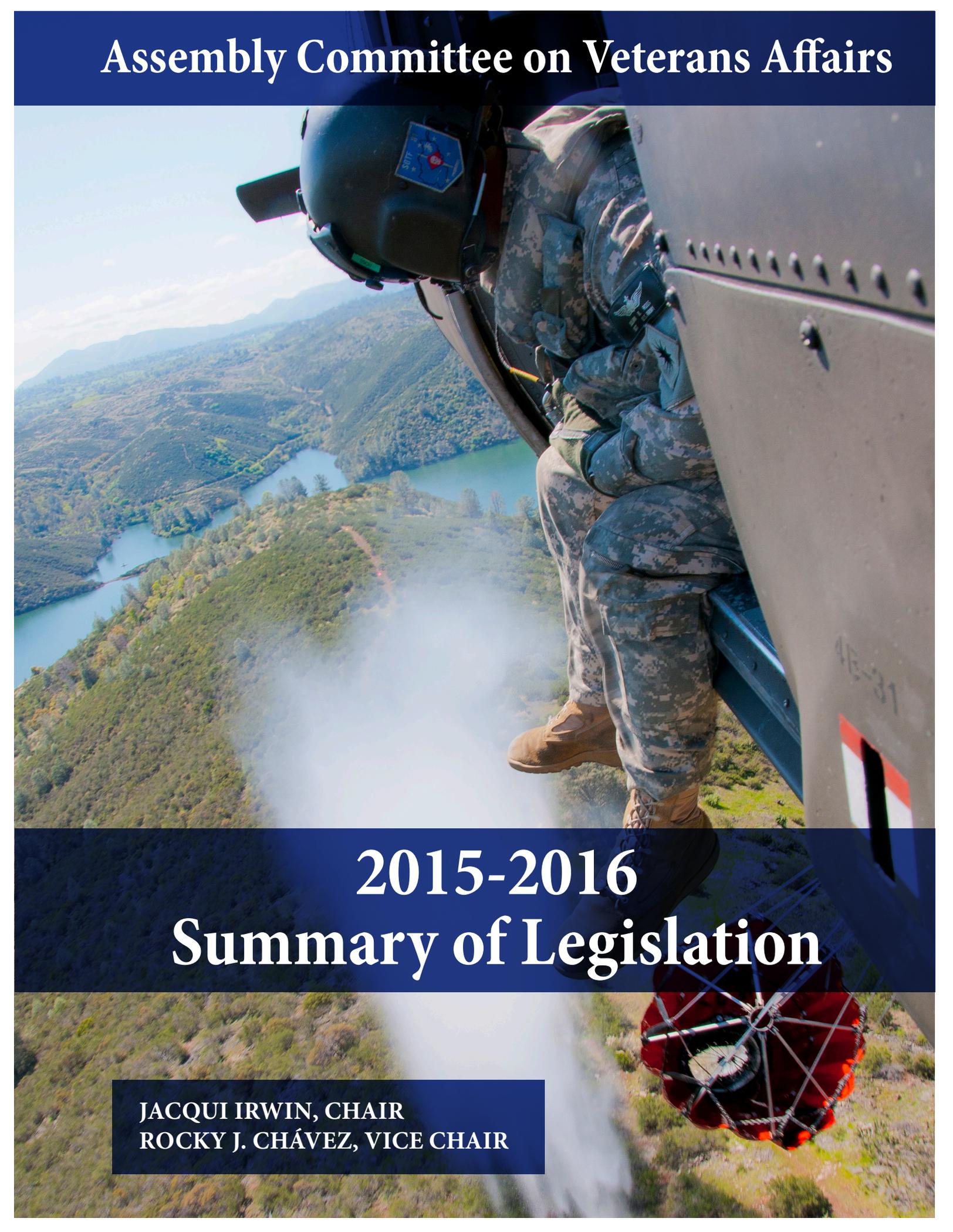


# Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs



## 2015-2016 Summary of Legislation

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## **Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs 2015-2016 Legislative Summary**

### **BILLS SENT TO GOVERNOR AND ENACTED RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **ASSEMBLY BILLS:**

**AB 388 (Chang)**

**Chapter 692, Statutes of 2015**

*Housing: veterans: supportive and transitional housing: reports.*

Requires the Department of Housing and Community Development, in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs to include specified information relating to the effectiveness of the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention (VHHP) Bond Act of 2014 in an annual report, including information relating to the effectiveness of assisted projects in helping veterans occupying any supportive housing or transitional housing development that was issued funds pursuant to the VHHP.

**AB 442 (Irwin)**

**Chapter 298, Statutes of 2015**

*Governor's Military Council.*

Codifies the Governor's Military Council, under the direction of the California Military Department; provides for appointment to the Council by the Governor; requires the appointments to include, but not be limited to, bipartisan representatives from both houses of the Legislature; and self-repeals on January 1, 2021.

**AB 583 (Chávez)**

**Chapter 183, Statutes of 2015**

*Military service: employment protections.*

Extends existing employment and reemployment protections to members of national guards of other states, when they must leave positions of private employment within California, due to having been called onto active state service by other states' Governors or onto active federal service by the President of the United States.

**AB 1401 (Baker)**

**Chapter 254, Statutes of 2015**

*Veterans: student financial aid.*

Requests the Office of the Adjutant General to provide specified assistance regarding higher education to members of the California National Guard, State Military Reserve, and Naval Militia, who do not have a baccalaureate degree.

**AB 2085 (Irwin)**

**Vetoed**

*Military and veterans: legal aid.*

Creates the Office of Military Legal Assistance within the Military Department upon appropriation by the Legislature. Requires the office to assist current servicemembers in the state who require legal assistance by providing access to educational and informational resources and by providing referral services to available legal assistance programs, including reduced fee services, pro bono services, and self-help services.

**AB 2128 (Achadjian)****Chapter 130, Statutes of 2016***Marriage.*

Limits the power of a county clerk or the State Register to reject a power of attorney from a member of the Armed Forces stationed overseas and seeking to marry "by proxy." Provides that proper completion of a power of attorney by a member of the armed forces, stationed overseas, serving in a conflict or a war and seeking to marry through an attorney-in-fact, is the sole determinant as to whether the county clerk's office and the State Registrar must accept the power of attorney and allow the military member to get married.

**AB 2247 (Williams)****Chapter 382, Statutes of 2016***Armories.*

Requires the Director of the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Adjutant General of the Military Department, to grant specified cities and school districts an option to purchase the Santa Barbara Armory, Brawley Armory, Indio Armory, Lynwood Armory, and Pomona Armory.

**AB 2254 (Achadjian)****Chapter 462, Statutes of 2016***Armories: homeless shelter.*

Adds the Atascadero armory in San Luis Obispo County to the list of state armories available to specified cities and counties for the purpose of providing temporary shelter for homeless persons from October 15 through April 15 each year.

**AB 2273 (Irwin)****Chapter 328, Statutes of 2016***Military law: suicide.*

Prohibits a member of the active militia, including the California National Guard, from being prosecuted for a military crime based on an attempt to kill himself or herself. The bill would also require the Adjutant General to ensure that any member of the active militia that attempts to kill himself or herself is referred to the department's Behavioral Health Liaison Program, or its successor, to receive assistance, counseling, or referral to other appropriate available services.

**AB 2561 (Irwin)****Chapter 669, Statutes of 2016***Water supply planning: projects: photovoltaic or wind energy generation facility.*

Extends for one year the current exclusion of proposed photovoltaic or wind energy facilities from the definition of a "project" required to have a water supply assessment.

**AB 2562 (Committee on Veterans Affairs)****Chapter 332, Statutes of 2016***Military Services: benefits.*

Deletes references to the date a reservist is called to active duty, in both the definition of a reservist and the payment deferral provisions. These dates determine, in part, the military servicemember's eligibility for existing financial and legal protections provided during the time period of the deployment.

**AB 2563 (Committee on Veterans Affairs)****Chapter 203, Statutes of 2016***Veterans: service advocate: correctional facilities.*

Revises the definition of "veteran" as used in Section 2695.5 of the Penal Code by deleting the reference to the American Red Cross and including a person who has been discharged from the National Guard of any state.

**ACR 36 (Gray)**

**Res. Chapter 199, Statutes of 2015**

*California Association of County Veterans Service Officers.*

Recognizes the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers for helping veterans secure their federal and state benefits over the past 70 years.

**ACR 188 (Melendez)**

**Res. Chapter 199, Statutes of 2015**

*California Association of County Veterans Service Officers.*

Recognizes the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers for helping veterans secure their federal and state benefits over the past 70 years.

**AJR 7 (Mathis)**

**Res. Chapter 122, Statutes of 2015**

*Veterans: first businesses.*

Requests that the Congress of the United States of America further amend the GI Bill of Rights to make benefits available, with all appropriate safeguards, to all veterans for use as startup capital in the establishment of first businesses.

**AJR 11 (Burke, Atkins)**

**Res. Chapter 68, Statutes of 2015**

*Military bases: closures.*

Memorializes the President and Congress of the United States to recognize the unique military value of California's defense installations and the disproportionate sacrifices California endured in previous base realignment and closure (BRAC) rounds.

**AJR 20 (Kim)**

**Res. Chapter 92, Statutes of 2016**

*Veterans Affairs hospitals.*

Requests that the Congress of the United States of America support and build a central Veterans Affairs Hospital in Orange County.

**AJR 33 (Bonilla, Thurmond)**

**Res. Chapter 93, Statutes of 2015**

*Port Chicago disaster: African American Sailors of the United States Navy.*

Urges the Congress of the United States to publicly exonerate the 50 African American sailors of the United States Navy, who were inappropriately tried for and convicted of mutiny in connection with the Port Chicago Naval Magazine incident (July 1944), and to retroactively convert the general discharge granted to each of those sailors to an honorable discharge.

**AJR 37 (Bonta)**

**Res. Chapter 114, Statutes of 2016**

*Filipino Veterans.*

Requests that the Congress of the United States pass H.R. 2737 and Sen. 1555 in recognition of the loyal and selfless duty of Filipino veterans of World War II to the Philippines and to the United States.

## SENATE BILLS

### **SB 193 (Committee on Veterans Affairs)**

**Chapter 533, Statutes of 2015**

*The State Militia.*

Cleans up portions of the Military and Veterans Code by deleting outdated references to federal executive orders and statutes (which the State borrows to define military law for the active state militia), and by adding updated references to federal law.

### **SB 221 (Jackson)**

**Chapter 794, Statutes of 2015**

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

The "California Wounded Warriors Transitional Leave Act" permits state employees, who are military veterans with service-connected disabilities, to receive 96 hours of additional sick leave dedicated to health care treatment of those disabilities.

### **SB 536 (Roth)**

**Chapter 355, Statutes of 2015**

*Armories.*

Allows the Department of General Services with the approval of the Adjutant General of the California Military Department to sell seven specified armory properties and sets terms for how the costs of the sales will be paid. These locations are: the Azusa-Orange Armory, the Brawley Armory, the Indio Armory, the Lynwood Armory, Pomona Park Armory, the Santa Barbara Armory, and the Yreka Armory.

### **SB 543 (Wolk)**

**Chapter 424, Statutes of 2016**

*Veterans: Veterans' Home of California.*

Creates a centralized, state-level Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Fund (MWR Fund) for the Veterans Home of California system of state veterans homes. This bill consolidates within this MWR Fund all existing and future MWR moneys generated by individual homes, and establishes procedures for and places restrictions on the budgeting and expenditure of moneys in the MWR Fund.

### **SB 866 (Roth)**

**Chapter 535, Statutes of 2016**

*Veterans housing.*

Authorizes a housing developer or service provider, which provides housing or services under the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act of 2014, to provide housing or services to veterans and their children in women-only facilities in limited instances.

### **SB 1059 (Monning)**

**Chapter 428, Statutes of 2016**

*Postsecondary education: Title 38 awards.*

Authorizes an institution that obtains and provides evidence to the California State Approving Agency for Veteran's Education (CSAAVE) that it has been "accredited" by the Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE), to receive approval from CSAAVE for participation in Title 38 veteran's education benefits, provided the institution provides disclosures to applicants of the school who are eligible for federal Title 38 awards of the institution's tuition costs, refund policies, class sizes, number of faculty, attrition rates, bar passage data, and employment outcomes of graduates; and, is in compliance with all applicable CSAAVE rules and regulations and is in good standing with the CBE.

**SB 1180 (Jackson)****Chapter 728, Statutes of 2016**

*Public school employees: military veterans: leave of absence for illness or injury.*

Provides school employees who are military veterans with service-connected disabilities paid leaves of absence for illness or injury for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment for those disabilities during their first year of employment.

**SB 1227 (Lara)****Chapter 485, Statutes of 2016**

*California Conservation Corps.*

Requires the California Conservation Corps to collaborate with the Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) and the Employment Development Department (EDD) to assist any corpsmember who is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces in obtaining employment after participating in the corps program. Specifies that the collaboration efforts by the CalVet and the EDD shall include, but not be limited to, providing access to veterans supportive services and workforce services, respectively.

**SB 1455 (Block)****Chapter 312, Statutes of 2016**

*Pupil enrollment: military dependents.*

Provides that a student meets residency requirements for school attendance if the student's parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation that is within the boundaries of the school district.

**SB 1458 (Bates)****Chapter 871, Statutes of 2016**

*Property taxation: exemptions: disabled veterans.*

Expands eligibility for the Disabled Veteran's Property Tax Exemption (Disabled Veteran's Exemption) to include a person who has been discharged under the "other than dishonorable conditions" – but who is otherwise eligible for federal veterans' health and medical benefits, as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. This bill also contains technical provisions that allow county assessors to process assessment roll corrections beyond four years related to the Disabled Veteran's Exemption.

**SCR 50 (Nielsen)****Chapter 161, Statutes of 2015**

*World War II Remembrance Month.*

Urges the Governor to proclaim the month of June 2015 as World War II Remembrance Month, and call upon all Californians to observe the 70th anniversary of the end of the War.

**SCR 128 (Mendoza, Hall)****Chapter 70, Statutes of 2015**

*The Buffalo Soldiers.*

Honors the Buffalo Soldiers for changing the face of the United States Armed Forces forever through their record of unique accomplishments.

## **BILLS IN LEGISLATURE:**

The following bills, if enacted would do the following:

### **ASSEMBLY BILLS:**

#### **AB 13 (Chávez)**

*Public postsecondary education: community colleges: exemptions from nonresident tuition.*

Exempts from the California Community College nonresident student fees those veterans living in California and covered under the federal Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Choice Act), and authorizes California Community Colleges to claim state apportionment funding for these students enrolled on or after July 1, 2015.

*In Senate Committee on Education. From Senate committee without further action.*

#### **AB 27 (Chávez)**

*Public postsecondary education: exemptions from nonresident tuition.*

Requires the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and requests the University of California, by July 1, 2015, to adopt tuition policies ensuring participation of eligible veterans and their dependents in GI Bill education benefits and providing conformity with the federal Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Choice Act).

*In Senate Education Committee: From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on ED. In committee: Hearing postponed by committee. From Senate committee without further action.*

#### **AB 75 (Mathis)**

*Veterans.*

Continuously appropriates \$3 million General Fund, each fiscal year, to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of funding 36 Veteran Claims Representative positions to ensure the quality and timeliness of claims filed through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs on behalf of California veterans and their families.

*In Assembly Appropriations Committee: In committee: Held under submission. Died pursuant to Article IV, Sec. 10(c) of the Constitution. From committee: Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.*

#### **AB 171 (Irwin)**

*Department of Veterans Affairs: veterans' services.*

Modifies the formula by which the Department of Veterans Affairs allocates state funds to county veterans service officers based upon performance standards that encourage innovation and reward outstanding service, and adds reporting requirements to help determine how effectively and efficiently state funds are being spent.

*From Senate Appropriations Committee: Amend, and do pass as amended. Read second time and amended. Ordered to third reading. Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Block. Died on Senate inactive file.*

**AB 240 (Wilk)**

*Department of Parks and Recreation: free day use entry.*

Requires that vehicles with the following valid specialty license plates be allowed free day use entry to all units of the state park system: Pearl Harbor Survivor, Legion of Valor, Former Prisoner of War, Congressional Medal of Honor, Purple Heart Veteran, and Gold Star Family.  
*In Senate Appropriations Committee: In committee: Held under submission.*

**AB 255 (Irwin)**

*Veterans: Internal Audits for Veterans Affairs.*

Creates the office of Internal Audits for Veterans Affairs within the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

*In Assembly Appropriations Committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From Senate committee without further action.*

**AB 393 (Roger Hernández)**

*Veteran Resource Centers Grant Program.*

Establishes a grant program to support California Community Colleges (CCC) veterans' resource centers. Specifically, this bill requires the Chancellor of the CCC to develop and administer the grant program. Community college districts may apply for grants for existing or planned centers to provide assistance to veterans and active duty Armed Forces members to help them succeed academically. This bill provides that the program requirements may include funding priority to campuses providing matching funds, stipulates that funding for the program is subject to appropriation by the Legislature, and requires the Chancellor to provide a progress report to the Legislature regarding the program by May 31, 2018.

*In committee on Appropriations: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. Died pursuant to Article IV, Sec. 10(c) of the Constitution.*

**AB 421 (Calderon)**

*Community colleges: veterans counselor.*

Requires every community college district governing board to provide each of its colleges having 200 or more enrolled student veterans with a veterans' counselor. The bill also requires the California Community College Board of Governors to adopt regulations establishing minimum qualifications for a veterans' counselor, and in doing so to consider specified requirements.

*In committee on Appropriations: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. Died pursuant to Article IV, Sec. 10(c) of the Constitution.*

**AB 659 (Mathis)**

*Inspector General for Veterans Affairs.*

Creates the office of Inspector General for Veterans Affairs, who would be subject to the direction of the Governor, within the department. The bill would require the inspector general to be appointed by the Governor, subject to Senate confirmation. The inspector general would be responsible for reviewing the operations and financial condition of each California veterans home, each veterans farm and home purchase program, and all other veterans programs supported by the state. Beginning January 1, 2017, and each year after, the bill would require the inspector general to submit a report to the board and the Legislature and make any

recommendations he or she deems necessary for improving the operations of the veterans' programs. The bill would repeal the reporting requirement on January 1, 2020.  
*Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs. No hearing date assigned. Died pursuant to Article IV, Sec. 10(c) of the Constitution.*

**AB 930 (Irwin, Atkins)**

*Work for Warriors programs.*

Codifies the authorization for the existing Work for Warriors (WFW) program, which provides direct placement job services to unemployed and underemployed military service members, veterans, graduates of state military youth programs, military families, and other related populations in California.

*From committee: Do pass. Read second time. Ordered to third reading. Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Monning. Died on Senate inactive file.*

**AB 1029 (Frazier)**

*Veterans: service providers.*

Creates a program to certify organizations that provide specified services to military veterans and their families.

*From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author. In committee: Set, second hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From Senate committee without further action.*

**AB 1530 (Levine, Gordon)**

*Electricity: distributed generation.*

Requires the Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission and the State Air Resources Board, to promote the deployment of clean distributed energy resources, as defined, in order to provide a stable and reliable supply of electricity.

*From Senate Com. on E., U., & C. Amend, and do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on E.Q. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on E.Q. In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author. From committee: Without further action pursuant to Joint Rule 62(a).*

**AB 1560 (Mathis)**

*Veterans: substance abuse programs.*

Authorizes the California Department of Veterans Affairs and/or a county veterans service officer to refer a veteran to a drug and alcohol treatment program for veterans that is administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

*Referred to Com. on V.A. From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on V.A. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on V.A. From committee without further action.*

**AB 1596 (Mathis)**

*Veterans service organizations.*

Appropriates \$3,000,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of grants to veterans service organizations. Requires the department to establish criteria, regulations, and reporting requirements for any organization it contracts with pursuant to these

provisions. Additionally requires a veterans service organization that contracts with the department to have a presence in this state and be registered with both the Secretary of State and Attorney General.

*In committee on Appropriations: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From committee without further action.*

#### **AB 1672 (Mathis, Eggman)**

*Veterans treatment courts: Judicial Council assessment and survey.*

Requires the Judicial Council to, on or before June 1, 2019, report to the Legislature on a study of veterans and veterans treatment courts, as specified. Appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund and \$100,000 from the Veterans Court Assessment (VCA) Fund, which is created in this bill, to conduct the study and report to the Legislature.

*From Senate V.A. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From Senate committee without further action.*

#### **AB 1706 (Chávez)**

*Military fraud.*

Updates provisions of the California Stolen Valor Act to conform to the federal Stolen Valor Act of 2013.

*From Senate V.A. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From Senate committee without further action.*

#### **AB 1781 (Lopez)**

*Child development programs.*

Directs the Superintendent of Public Instruction in conjunction with the appropriate state agencies and stakeholders, to examine the current rules and regulations regarding the priority of children specifically attending a child development program under contract with the California Department of Education, and opine as to whether or not the existing priorities should be amended to include children of California National Guard (CNG) students; and, develop plans for child care services in cases of state emergencies when the CNG personnel is called to duty.

*From Higher Ed committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on V.A. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on V.A. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on V.A. In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author. From committee without further action.*

#### **AB 1844 (Gallagher)**

*Hunting and fishing licenses: reduced license fees: veterans.*

Requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to reduce the lifetime sportsman's, lifetime hunting, and lifetime fishing license fees by 25 percent for honorably discharged veterans.

*From Senate N.R. & W committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From Senate committee without further action.*

**AB 1880 (Irwin)**

*State real property: reversion.*

Authorizes the Director of General Services to revert a specified parcel of state real property to the City of San Buenaventura pursuant to these provisions.

*From Senate G.O. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. From committee: Be placed on second reading file pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8 and ordered to consent calendar. Read second time. Ordered to Consent Calendar. From Consent Calendar. Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Hancock. Died on Senate Inactive File.*

**AB 1913 (Baker)**

*Veterans: Employment Development Department.*

Requires the Employment Development Department, upon request of the local county veterans service officer, to provide training to the county veterans service officer and his or her staff in providing assistance to veterans applying for unemployment insurance benefits.

*From INS. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission.*

**AB 1936 (Chávez)**

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

Expands the current eligibility for resident postsecondary tuition and fees currently provided for enrolled dependents of an Armed Forces member who either transfers or retires, to those that are admitted to the institution. Requests the University of California to establish the same residency benefits for students.

*From Senate Ed. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Hearing postponed by committee. Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission.*

**AB 1972 (Chau)**

*Veterans: state park passes.*

Expands the current eligibility for a Distinguished Veteran Pass to any veteran who has a 50 percent or greater service-connected disability.

*From Senate N.R. & W. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission.*

**AB 2494 (Hernández)**

*Veteran Resource Centers Grant Program.*

Establishes the Veteran Resource Centers Grant Program, which would authorize the governing board of a community college district and a community college campus at which a veterans resource center has been or is intended to be established to jointly apply to the chancellor for a grant for purposes of providing resources to veterans and active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States enrolled at the campus. Establishes the Veteran Resource Centers Grant Fund in the State Treasury. Allocates moneys in the fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act, to the chancellor for, among other things, administration of the program and distribution of awards to recipient community college districts and campuses.

*From Senate V.A. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission.*

**AB 2512 (Grove)**

*Task Force on California Women Veterans Health.*

Creates a nine-member volunteer Task Force on California Women Veterans Health Care, within the California Department of Veterans Affairs, to study the health care needs of women veterans in the state, as specified. Requires the task force, when conducting its study and preparing a report required in this bill, to consult with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the State Department of Public Health, the Department of Managed Health Care, and representatives of county veterans service officers.

*From V.A. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission.*

**AB 2574 (Chávez)**

*Veteran farmers and ranchers.*

Requires state departments to develop, by July 1, 2017, a New Veteran Farmer and Rancher Outreach and Assistance Plan to disseminate information to veterans in California about federal and state veteran agricultural education, training, and other assistance programs.

*From Senate AGRI. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission.*

**AB 2574 (Chávez)**

*Veteran farmers and ranchers.*

Requires state departments to develop, by July 1, 2017, a New Veteran Farmer and Rancher Outreach and Assistance Plan to disseminate information to veterans in California about federal and state veteran agricultural education, training, and other assistance programs.

*From Senate AGRI. committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission.*

## SENATE BILLS:

### **SB 159 (Nielsen)**

*California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program: goal achievement.*

Clarifies that an awarding department's Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) program participation goal achievement is to be measured by the overall dollar amount expended each year by the awarding department.

*From committee: Do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on V.A. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on V.A.*

### **SB 112 (Roth)**

*California Veterans' Bill of Rights.*

Establishes a California Veterans' Bill of Rights. Proclaims the rights of veterans in the State of California, including, among others, that veterans have the right to be treated with dignity, *understanding*, and respect, and have the right to housing, education, job training, and physical and mental health services, as prescribed.

*From Senate Floor: Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. Referred to Com. on V.A. From committee without further action. From Assembly without further action.*

### **SB 159 (Nielsen)**

*California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program: goal achievement.*

Clarifies the metrics to be used when calculating the 3% procurement participation goal for disabled veteran business enterprises (DVBEs).

*From Assembly V.A. committee: Do pass. Read second time. Ordered to third reading. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. Died on third reading. From Assembly without further action.*

### **SB 384 (Leyva)**

*Veterans housing: multifamily units: underserved veterans.*

Requires that a percentage of state bond funds allocated annually for purposes of the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Act of 2014, as determined annually by the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA), be reserved for housing underserved veterans, defined as those veterans either experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness at a disproportionate rate to their veteran or nonveteran counterparts, as determined by the most recent United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Annual Homeless Assessment Report that includes an assessment of veteran homelessness, or other similar sources CalVet, HCD, and CalHFA deem appropriate.

*From Assembly Com. on H. & C.D.: Do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. Placed on APPR. suspense file. Held in committee and under submission. From Assembly without further action.*

**SB 543 (Wolk)**

*Veterans: Veterans' Home of California.*

Creates a single system-wide Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Fund (MWR) for the Veterans Home of California system that consolidates existing and future MWR moneys generated by individual veterans home campuses, and establishes procedures for and restrictions on the budgeting and spending of moneys in the Fund.

*Referred to Com. on V.A. From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on V.A.*

**SB 980 (Nielsen)**

*Veterans' homes.*

Updates code sections governing state veterans' homes, and among other things, requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to adopt statewide policies and procedures, by regulation, for the operation of the state veterans home system, implement a statewide electronic health records system, and submit an annual report that reflects significant veteran's home-related performance issues, as specified.

*In Assembly V.A. committee. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From Assembly without further action.*

**SB 1155 (Morrell)**

*Professions and vocations: licenses: military service.*

Requires, on or after January 1, 2018, every board under the Department of Consumer Affairs to waive initial license fees for veterans.

*In Assembly V.A. committee. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file. In committee: Held under submission. From Assembly without further action.*

**SB 1259 (Runner)**

*Vehicles: toll payment: veterans.*

Exempts vehicles registered to a veteran and displaying a specialized veterans license plate, as specified, from payment of a toll or related fines on a toll road, high-occupancy toll lane, toll bridge, toll highway, a vehicular crossing, or any other toll facility.

*In Assembly V.A. committee. Set for first hearing canceled at the request of author. From committee without further action. From Assembly without further action.*