

# Assembly Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs

## YEAR END SUMMARY 2023–24 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

**Honorable Pilar Schiavo, Chair**



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Graciela Amezcua, Committee Secretary

# **ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>ASSEMBLY BILL SUMMARIES</b>	<b>PAGE 3</b>
<b>SENATE BILL SUMMARIES</b>	<b>PAGE 8</b>
<b>APPENDIX A-1: ASSEMBLY BILLS BY BILL NUMBER</b>	<b>PAGE 11</b>
<b>APPENDIX A-2: SENATE BILLS BY BILL NUMBER</b>	<b>PAGE 14</b>

**ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**ALL ASSEMBLY BILLS**  
**YEAR END 2023-24 CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATIVE**  
**SESSION**

**AB 322 (Mathis) Veteran and California National Guard Supplemental Orientation Act of 2023**

Requires that each California State University and California Community College campus and requests that each University of California include in transfer and first-year student orientation specified information for students who are veterans and their dependents.

**Last Action:** Chapter 801, Statutes of 2023

**AB 444 (Addis) California Defense Community Infrastructure Program**

Creates a state matching grant program to help local communities home to military institutions draw down funds from a federal grant program to enhance and support the areas around those military institutions.

**Last Action:** Held in Senate Appropriations Committee

**AB 475 (Mathis) Sensitive military land: foreign ownership and interests: prohibited foreign actors**

**Last Action:** Died—Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56

**AB 531 (Irwin) The Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2023**

Creates the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2024 to, subject to voter approval, authorize \$6.380 billion in general obligation bonds to finance permanent supportive housing for veterans and others, as well as, unlocked and locked behavioral health treatment and residential settings for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness with severe behavioral health challenges. Allows for by right streamlined, ministerial review for capital projects funded by the bond.

**Last Action:** Chapter 789, Statutes of 2023

**AB 535 (Schiavo)**

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:** Chapter 918, Statutes of 2024

## **ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **AB 569 (Garcia) California State University: Cybersecurity: Regional Alliances and Multistakeholder Partnership Pilot Program**

Requires the California State University Chancellor's Office, on or before July 1, 2028, to submit a report to the Legislature on the Cybersecurity Regional Alliances and Multistakeholder Partnerships pilot program.

**Last Action:** Chapter 117, Statutes of 2023

### **AB 684 (Ta) County Veterans Services Officers: Additional Resources**

Would provide to any county where there is an active United States military installation a stipend, upon appropriation, for the purposes of maintaining a county veterans service officer, at least part time, on each active United States military base in the county.

**Last Action:** Died—Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56

### **AB 718 (Ta) Veterans Mental Health**

Requires the California Department of Veterans Affairs to, establish a program to fund an academic study of mental health among women veterans in California, and to submit a report summarizing the findings and recommendations of the study to the Legislature no later than July 31, 2025.

**Last Action:** Vetoed by Governor

### **AB 941 (Waldron) Controlled Substances: psychedelic-assisted therapy.**

Requires the California Health and Human Services Agency to convene a workgroup to study and make recommendations on the establishment of a framework governing psychedelic-assisted therapy, as defined. Requires the workgroup to send a report to the Legislature containing those recommendations on or before January 1, 2026.

Makes, contingent upon the Legislature enacting a framework governing psychedelic-assisted therapy, the use of hallucinogenic/psychedelic substances for psychedelic-assisted therapy lawful.

**Last Action:** Held in Senate Health Committee

### **AB 1014 (Schiavo) Property Taxation: exemption: principal residence: disabled veterans and their unmarried surviving spouses.**

**Last Action:** Died – Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56

### **AB 1234 (Davies) Veteran Home Use: Reporting**

**Last Action:** Died – Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56

### **AB 1350 (Soria) Veterans: Memorials**

Creates the Capitol Park Veterans Memorial Fund, to be continuously appropriated to and administered by the California Department of Veterans Affairs, for the purpose of maintaining and rehabilitating existing memorials in the State Capitol to veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

**Last Action:** Chapter 684, Statutes of 2023

## **ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **AB 1386 (Gabriel) Veterans Housing; Tenant Referrals**

Authorizes entities referring veterans to deeply affordable housing units funded by the Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program or tax credits and private activity bonds to refer veterans at higher income levels if units are unable to be filled at a lower income threshold for specified time periods.

**Last Action:** Chapter 760, Statutes of 2023

### **AB 1462 (Jim Patterson) Veteran Overdose Deaths**

Requires the California Department of Public Health to access existing data within the electronic death registration system to compile a report on veteran drug overdose deaths in California and to report specified data.

**Last Action:** Chapter 844, Statutes of 2023

### **AB 1566 (Soria) Department of Veterans Affairs: Veterans' Services**

Requires the California Department of Veterans Affairs' annual report to include the composition of staff at the county office, as specified, and the annual funding of the county veterans service office by the county, as specified. This bill authorizes CalVet to require county veterans service officers to apply uniform measurement of workload units, claims, and other information.

**Last Action:** Chapter 694, Statutes of 2023

### **AB 1647 (Soria) Veterans Treatment Courts: Grant Program**

Establishes a grant program, upon appropriation, to be administered by Judicial Council to establish and support veterans treatment courts and support veterans in the criminal legal system in counties without veterans treatment courts.

**Last Action:** Held in Senate Public Safety Committee

### **AB 1665 (Soria) Veterans' Homes**

Specifies that dissolution of marriage or termination of domestic partnership does not necessitate the discharge of the spouse or domestic partner; and provides that the discharge of a veteran member who intends to take an aid-in-dying drug, as specified, does not necessitate the discharge of the spouse or domestic partner.

**Last Action:** Ordered to the inactive file at the request of Senator Archuleta

### **AB 1793 (Ta) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: Eligibility: Dependents of members of the armed services stationed outside of California**

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

**Last Action:** Held in Senate Appropriations

## ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

### **AB 1854 (Schiavo) Service Member Protections**

Provides for a period following a tour of active duty during which a reservist may apply for relief from specified financial obligations.

**Last Action:** Chapter 144, Statutes of 2024

### **AB 1882 (Villapudua) Disabled Veterans**

Revises eligibility criteria for the disabled veteran's plate and exempts partially disabled veterans, as defined, from paying vehicle registration fees.

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

### **AB 1908 (Schiavo) Department of Veterans Affairs: Internal Audits**

This bill requires the California Department of Veterans Affairs to provide an annual report to the governor and legislature on the findings of its internal auditor.

**Last Action:** Held in Senate Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

### **AB 1994 (Assembly Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs) Veterans: Department of Veterans Affairs**

This bill creates and requires the secretary to appoint a Deputy Secretary of Minority and Underrepresented Veterans Affairs.

**Last Action:** Chapter 221, Statutes of 2024

### **AB 2158 (Flora) Vehicles: Disabled Veterans**

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Transportation Committee

### **AB 2289 (Low) Vehicles: Parking Placards and Special License Plates for Disabled Veterans and Persons with Disabilities**

Authorizes licensed physical therapists to certify a person's disability, beginning January 1, 2026, for purposes of applying to the Department of Motor Vehicles for issuance of a disability placard, license plate, or temporary disability placard, as specified.

**Last Action:** Held in Senate Appropriations Committee

### **AB 2306 (Mathis) Sensitive Military Land: Foreign Ownership and Interests: Prohibited Foreign Actors**

This bill would require the Military Department to develop statewide policy recommendations regarding ownership and use of real property on sensitive land, as specified, and require the department to submit its recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

## **ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **AB 2567 (Mathis) Public Post-Secondary Education: Student Housing: Data Collection: Veterans**

This bill expands the information related to campus-owned, campus-operated, or campus-affiliated student housing that California State University and the California Community Colleges are required, and University of California is requested, to post online to also include specified information about veterans.

**Last Action:** Chapter 921, Statutes of 2024

### **AB 2713 (Hoover) State Parks: Armed Services: Free Access**

Requires the Department of Parks and Recreation to grant free access to state parks to veterans, and active duty and reserve members of the U.S. military, who are California residents.

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

### **AB 2736 (J. Carrillo) Veterans: Benefits**

Eliminates a prohibition against the concurrent receipt and usage of certain federal and state education benefit.

**Last Action:** Vetoed by Governor

### **AB 2838 (Davies) Veterans: Memorials**

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

### **AB 3163 (Mathis) State Parks: Armed Services: Fee Waiver**

Expands the authority of the Departments Parks and Recreation to offer reduced fee or free day use of state parks operated by State Parks to veterans, active duty, or reserve military personnel to any additional days State Parks finds appropriate.

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

**ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**ALL SENATE BILLS**  
**YEAR END 2023-24 CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATIVE**  
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**SB 73 (Seyarto) Employment Policy: Voluntary Veterans' Preference**

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

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

**SB 82 (Seyarto) Property Taxation: Disabled Veterans' Exemption: Eligibility Letters**

Requires a county assessor to accept an electronically-generated letter of service-connected disability in lieu of an original letter of service-connected disability, at the discretion of the claimant, when verifying eligibility for the disabled veterans' exemption.

**Last Action:** Chapter 773, Statutes of 2023

**SB 228 (Roth) Civilian Youth Opportunities Program**

Requires a county assessor to accept an electronically-generated letter of service-connected disability in lieu of an original letter of service-connected disability, at the discretion of the claimant, when verifying eligibility for the disabled veterans' exemption.

**Last Action:** Chapter 703, Statutes of 2023

**SB 726 (Archuleta) Property Taxation: Exemption: Disabled Veteran Homeowners**

Increases and expands the disabled veterans' property tax exemption for 10 years.

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee

**SB 783 (Archuleta) Veterans: Suicide**

Authorizes the Counties of Los Angeles and Nevada to create a veteran suicide prevention training pilot program.

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

**SB 901 (Umberg) Military: Eligibility**

Requires the Department of General Services to develop criteria to evaluate the suitability of state-owned parcels determined or declared excess to be used for affordable housing.

**Last Action:** Chapter 774, Statutes of 2024



## ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

### **SB 914 (Umberg) Veterans: Employment**

Requires that the California Department of Veterans Affairs create and maintain an internet website for matching veterans looking for work with prospective employers.

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

### **SB 916 (Seyarto) Public Post-Secondary Education: Waiver of Tuition and Fees: Veterans: Extended Education Courses**

Requires the University of California and the California State University to waive tuition or fees for certain extended education courses for a student who is a dependent of a service-injured veteran, a medal of honor recipient, or a child of a medal of honor recipient.

**Last Action:** Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

### **SB 920 (Seyarto) California Purple Star School Designation Program**

Codifies the existing Purple Star School Designation Program, which was established by the California Department of Education in 2022.

**Last Action:** Chapter 923, Statutes of 2024

### **SB 1097 (Laird) Veterans: Military and Veterans: Gender-Neutral Terms**

Clarifies existing law exempting National Guard and State Guard members from specified civil obligations, including jury duty, while they are on active duty, and renders gender-specific terminology in several sections neutral

**Last Action:** Chapter 129, Statutes of 2024

### **SB 1138 (Newman) Pupil Attendance: Excused Absences: Military Entrance Processing**

Authorizes a student's excused absence due to participation in military entrance processing.

**Last Action:** Chapter 925, Statutes of 2024

### **SB 1500 (Durazo) Housing: Federal Waiver: Income Eligibility**

Prohibits the Tax Credit Allocation Committee and the Department of Housing and Community Development from taking specified punitive actions against affordable housing developments in the City and County of Los Angeles that violate income limit requirements, if certain conditions are met.

**Last Action:** Chapter 491, Statutes of 2024

### **SB 1529 (Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs) Veterans Homes**

Revises and clarifies various veterans' home admission criteria.

**Last Action:** Chapter 140, Statutes of 2024

## **ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **SB 1530 (Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs) Veterans Homes**

Updates outdated statutory language regarding the California Department of Veterans Affairs' veterans' homes member volunteerism program

**Last Action:** Chapter 141, Statutes of 2024

### **SJR 4 (Ochoa Bogh) Veteran Health Care**

Urges the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to locate satellite Veterans Health Administration medical clinics on or near state veterans home campuses and further urges the United States Congress to provide federal funding for the operation of such satellite clinics

**Last Action:** Chapter 117, Statutes of 2023

### **SJR 6 (Caballero) Don't Ask, Don't Tell: Discharge Characterization**

Urges the President and the Congress of the United States to address, with effective policies, the issue of service members who were unjustly discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" or previous policies, in order to unify efforts to upgrade discharges issued under the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy and predecessor policies and to restore benefits.

**Last Action:** Chapter 173, Statutes of 2024

**ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**APPENDIX A-1: ASSEMBLY BILLS BY BILL NUMBER**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Statuses</b>
AB 322	Mathis	Veteran and California National Guard Supplemental Orientation Act of 22023	Chapter 801, Statutes of 2023
AB 444	Addis	California Defense Community Infrastructure Program	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee
AB 475	Mathis	Sensitive Military Land: Foreign Ownership and Interests: Prohibited Foreign Actors	Died in Assembly Judiciary Committee
AB 531	Irwin	The Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2023	Chapter 789, Statutes of 2023
AB 535	Schiavo	Veterans' Aid and Welfare: Housing	Chapter 918, Statutes of 2024
AB 569	Garcia	California State University: Cybersecurity Regional Alliances and Multistakeholder Partnership Pilot Program	Chapter 117, Statutes of 2023
AB 684	Ta	County Veterans Service Officers: Additional Resources	Died in Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 718	Ta	Veterans: Mental Health	Vetoed by Governor
AB 941	Waldron	Controlled Substances: Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy	Held in Senate Health Committee
AB 1014	Schiavo	Property Taxation: Exemption: Principal Residence: Disabled Veterans and their Unmarried Surviving Spouses	Died in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
AB 1234	Davies	Veteran Home Use: Reporting	Died in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

**ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**APPENDIX A-1: ASSEMBLY BILLS BY BILL NUMBER**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Statuses</b>
AB 1350	Soria	Veterans: Memorials	Chapter 684, Statutes of 2023
AB 1386	Gabriel	Veterans Housing: Tenant Referrals	Chapter 760, Statutes of 2023
AB 1462	Jim Patterson	Veteran Overdose Deaths	Chapter 844, Statutes of 2023
AB 1566	Soria	Department of Veterans Affairs: Veterans' Services	Chapter 694, Statutes of 2023
AB 1647	Soria	Veterans Treatment Courts: Grant Program	Held in Senate Public Safety Committee
AB 1665	Soria	Veterans' Homes	Ordered to the Inactive File
AB 1793	Ta	Student Financial Aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: Eligibility: Dependents of Members of the Armed Services Stationed Outside of California	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee
AB 1854	Schiavo	Service Member Protections	Chapter 144, Statutes of 2024
AB 1882	Villapudua	Disabled Veterans	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 1908	Schiavo	Department of Veterans Affairs: Internal Audit	Held in Senate Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
AB 1994	Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs	Veterans: Department of Veterans Affairs	Chapter 221, Statutes of 2024
AB 2158	Flora	Vehicles: Disabled Veterans	Held in Assembly Transportation Committee

**ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**APPENDIX A-1: ASSEMBLY BILLS BY BILL NUMBER**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Statuses</b>
AB 2289	Low	Vehicles: Parking Placards and Special License Plates for Disabled Veterans and Persons with Disabilities	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee
AB 2306	Mathis	Sensitive Military Land: Foreign Ownership and Interests: Prohibited Foreign Actors	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 2567	Mathis	Public Post-Secondary Education: Student Housing Data Collection: Veterans	Chapter 921, Statutes of 2024
AB 2713	Hoover	State Parks: Armed Services: Free Access	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 2736	J. Carrillo	Veterans: Benefits	Vetoed by Governor
AB 2838	Davies	Veterans: Memorials	Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs
AB 3163	Mathis	State Parks: Armed Services: Fee Waiver	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

## ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

### A-2: SENATE BILLS BY BILL NUMBER

Measure	Author	Subject	Statuses
SB 73	Seyarto	Employment Policy: Voluntary Veterans' Preference	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
SB 82	Seyarto	Property Taxation: Exemption: Eligibility Letters	Chapter 773, Statutes of 2023
SB 228	Roth	Civilian Youth Opportunities Program	Chapter 703, Statutes of 2023
SB 726	Archuleta	Property Taxation: Disabled Veteran Homeowners	Held in Assembly Revenue and taxation Committee
SB 783	Archuleta	Veterans Suicide	Held in Assembly Military and Veterans Committee
SB 901	Umberg	The Military: Eligibility	Chapter 774, Statutes of 2024
SB 914	Umberg	Veterans: Employment	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
SB 916	Seyato	Public Post-Secondary Education: Waiver of Tuition and Fees: Veterans: Extended Education Courses	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
SB 920	Seyarto	California Purple Star School Designation Program	Chapter 923, Statutes of 2024
SB 1097	Laird	Veterans: Military and Veterans: Gender-Neutral Terms	Chapter 129, Statutes of 2024
SB 1138	Newman	Pupil Attendance: Excused Absences: Military Entrance Program	Chapter 925, Statutes of 2024
SB 1500	Durazo	Housing: Federal Waiver: Income Eligibility	Chapter 491, Statutes of 2024

### A-2: SENATE BILLS BY BILL NUMBER

## ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Statues</b>
SB 1529	Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs	Veterans Homes	Chapter 140, Statutes of 2024
SB 1530	Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs	Veterans Homes	Chapter 141, Statutes of 2024
SJR 4	Ochoa Bogh	Veteran Health Care	Chapter 117, Statutes of 2024
SJR 6	Caballero	Don't Ask, Don't Tell: Discharge Characterizations	Chapter 173, Statutes of 2024