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on
Veterans Affairs

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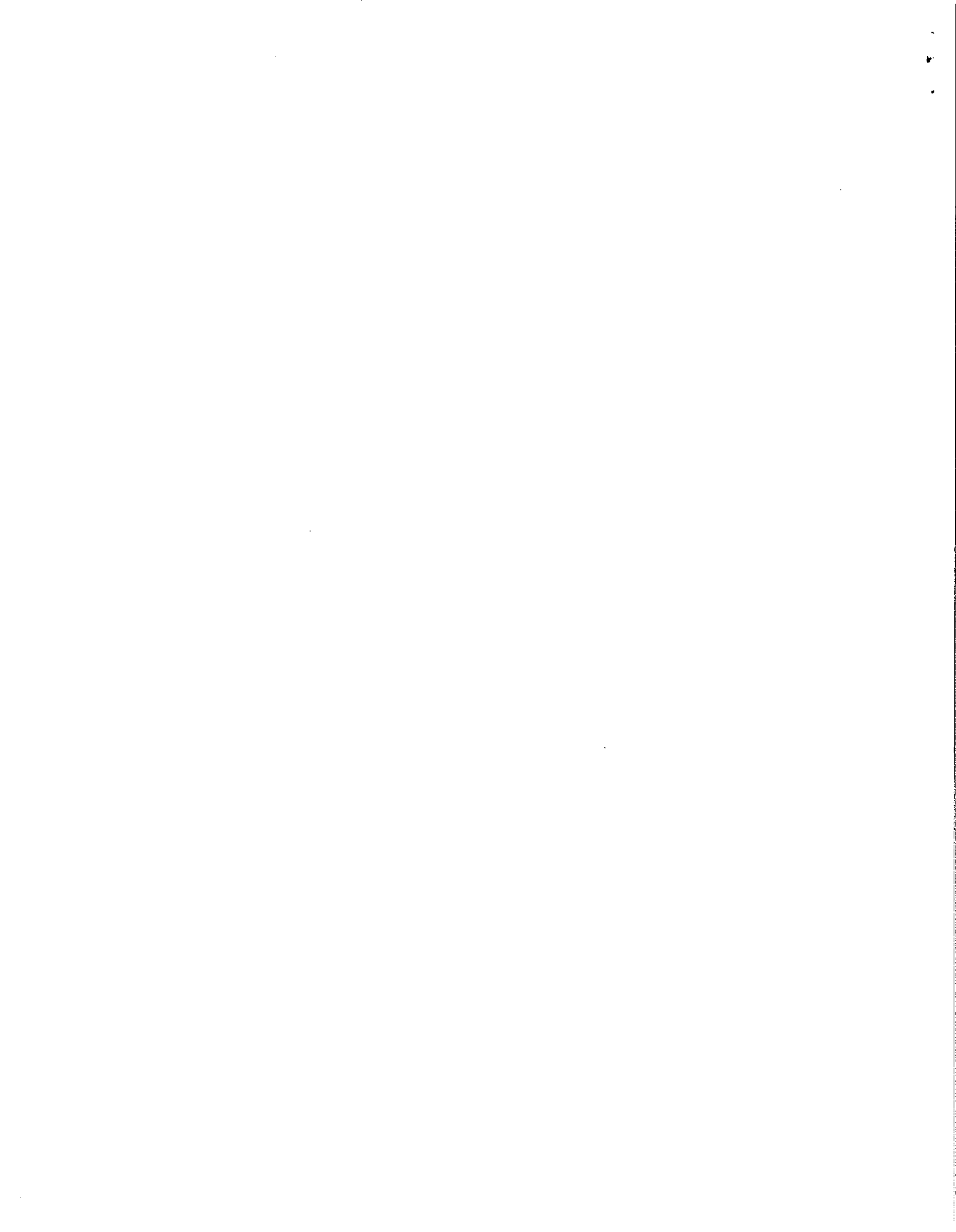
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SUMMARY
OF
MILITARY & VETERANS LEGISLATION
INTRODUCED INTO
THE 2017-18 BIENNIAL SESSION
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE

As of May 9, 2017

Prepared by Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs
Chair, Senator Josh Newman



AB 57, as introduced, Brough. National Guard: enlistment bonuses: financial relief.

Existing law defines the National Guard to include general officers, the several staff corps and departments prescribed in the tables of organization of the United States Army or United States Air Force or tables of organization for the National Guard, the officers and enlisted men and women on the retired and the reserve lists, and the organizations forming the National Guard and persons enlisted or commissioned therein. Existing law authorizes the award of bonuses to specified members of the National Guard.

This bill would state that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would provide financial relief to members of the National Guard ordered to repay enlistment bonuses that were accepted in good faith.

Current Location: Assembly Rules Committee

AB 70, as introduced, Travis Allen. California National Guard: improper payments.

Existing law establishes the Military Department, which includes, among others, the California National Guard. Existing law provides certain protections for members of the California National Guard called to active duty, including eviction or distress protections and tax deferments.

This bill would require the department, upon an appropriation of funds by the Legislature, to assume sole financial liability for any required payment to the federal government of an enlistment bonus, student loan repayment, or any other incentive payments improperly authorized by the California National Guard between January 1, 2006, and December 31, 2010, including any interest charges or other associated fees. The bill would also require the department upon an appropriation of funds by the Legislature, to repay to any member of the California National Guard who has repaid to the federal government any of these improperly authorized payments the amount the member has repaid, including any interest charges or other associated fees. The bill would specify that these provision become operative only if the federal government does not enact specified legislation on or before August 1, 2017, and the department posts a notice to that effect on its Internet Web site.

Current Location: Assembly Veterans Affairs Committee

AB 85, as amended, Rodriguez. General assistance: employable veterans.

Existing law requires each county to provide aid to its indigent residents not supported by other means. These county programs are known as general assistance programs. Existing law permits a county to prohibit an employable individual from receiving general assistance benefits for more than 3 months in any 12-month period, whether or not the months are consecutive, if he or she has been offered an opportunity to attend job skills or job training sessions.

This bill would, commencing July 1, 2018, exempt from that prohibition an employable veteran who was honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces, unless the county enacts an ordinance, by July 1, 2018, making the prohibition applicable to an employable veteran who was honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces. By requiring a county to expand eligibility for general assistance programs, or enact an ordinance to make the prohibition applicable to an employable veteran, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 153, as introduced, Chávez. Military fraud.

Existing law requires certain elected officers to forfeit their office upon the conviction of a crime pursuant to the federal Stolen Valor Act of 2005 that involves a false claim of receipt of any military decoration or medal, as specified, or the California Stolen Valor Act that involves a false claim, made with the intent to defraud, that the person is a veteran or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States. Existing law, the federal Stolen Valor Act of 2013, prohibits a person, with the intent to obtain money, property, or other tangible property, from fraudulently holding oneself out to be a recipient of a military decoration or medal, as specified.

This bill would instead require these elected officers to forfeit their office upon the conviction of a crime pursuant to the federal Stolen Valor Act of 2013 or the California Stolen Valor Act that involves a fraudulent claim, made with the intent to obtain money, property, or other tangible benefit, as defined, that the person is a veteran or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, as prescribed in those acts.

Existing law makes it a misdemeanor for a person to falsely represent himself or herself as a veteran or member of the Armed Forces of the United States in connection with specified acts. Existing law provides that any person who, orally, in writing, or by wearing any military decoration, falsely represents himself or herself to have been awarded any military decoration, with the intent to defraud, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

This bill would conform those provisions to the federal Stolen Valor Act of 2013, and impose a misdemeanor only if the prescribed actions described above are made fraudulently with the intent to obtain money, property, or other tangible benefit, as defined. The bill would expand the above-described crime related to misrepresentation to include a person who fraudulently represents himself or herself as a veteran or member of other specified armed forces with the intent to obtain money, property, or other tangible benefit. The bill would additionally make it a misdemeanor for a person to misrepresent himself or herself as a member or veteran of specified armed forces in connection with certain acts, such as, among other things, the forgery or use of falsified military documentation, or for purposes of employment or promoting a business, charity, or other endeavor, as prescribed.

Current Location: Senate Rules Committee

AB 172, as introduced, Chávez. Public postsecondary education: residency: dependents of armed forces members.

(1) Under existing law, the segments of the public postsecondary education system in the state include the University of California, which is administered by the Regents of the University of California, the California State University, which is administered by the Trustees of the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, which are administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

Existing law establishes uniform student residency requirements for purposes of ascertaining the amount of tuition and fees to be paid by students of public postsecondary education institutions. Existing law entitles a student to resident classification for the purpose of determining tuition and fees if the student is a member, or a child or spouse who is a dependent of a member, of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in the state on active duty, except as specified.

Existing law further provides that, if that member of the Armed Forces of the United States, whose dependent natural or adopted child, stepchild, or spouse is in attendance at an institution, (1) is thereafter transferred on military orders to a place outside this state where the member continues to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States, or (2) is thereafter retired as an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the student dependent shall not lose his or her resident classification so long as he or she remains continuously enrolled at that institution.

This bill would extend that resident classification for designated dependents of transferred and retired members of the Armed Forces of the United States to those dependents who have been admitted to a public postsecondary institution before the transfer or retirement. The bill would request the Regents of the University of California to establish the same residency benefits as those established by this bill for students enrolled at the University of California.

Current Location: Senate Rules Committee

AB 177, as amended, Chávez. Child abuse and neglect: reporting.

Existing law provides that whenever a social worker has cause to believe that there was or is within the county, or residing therein, a child who has suffered, or there is a substantial risk that the child will suffer, serious physical harm inflicted nonaccidentally upon the child by the child's parent or guardian, or serious physical harm or illness, as a result of the failure or inability of his or her parent or guardian to adequately supervise or protect the child, or the willful or negligent failure of the child's parent or guardian to adequately supervise or protect the child from the conduct of the custodian with whom the child has been left, or by the willful or negligent failure of the parent or guardian to provide the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment, or by the inability of the parent or guardian to provide regular care for the child due to the parent's or guardian's mental illness, developmental disability, or substance abuse, the social worker shall immediately make any investigation he or she deems necessary to determine whether child welfare services should be offered to the family and whether proceedings in the juvenile court should be commenced.

This bill would require a social worker investigating a case of child abuse or neglect involving an allegation against the parent or guardian of the child to attempt to determine if the parent or guardian is a member of the military. The bill would provide that if it is determined that the parent or guardian is a member of the military, the social worker would be required to notify the Family Advocacy Program of the Department of Defense that there is an allegation of abuse or neglect that relates to the parent or guardian who is a member of the military. By imposing additional duties on local government entities, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Assembly Public Safety Committee

AB 226, as amended, Cervantes. Teacher credentialing: spouses of active duty members of the Armed Forces: expedited application process.

Existing law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other duties, establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits.

This bill would require the commission to grant or deny an application for a credential within 7 days of the date that the commission received the application if the applicant supplies the commission with evidence that the applicant is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in this state under official active duty military orders and holds a valid teaching credential in another state, district, or territory of the United States.

Current Location: Senate Rules Committee

AB 242, as amended, Arambula. Certificates of death: veterans.

Existing law establishes the State Department of Public Health under the direction of the State Public Health Officer. Existing law sets forth the powers and duties of the State Public Health Officer, including, but not limited to, designation as the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, having supervisory powers over local registrars and responsibility for the uniform and thorough enforcement of provisions relating to the registration of certain vital statistics.

Existing law requires that each death be registered with the local registrar of births and deaths in the district in which the death was officially pronounced or the body was found.

Existing law sets forth the persons responsible for completing the certificate of death and the required contents of the certificate, including, but not limited to, the decedent's name, sex, and birthplace. Certain violations of these requirements are a crime.

This bill would require a person completing the certificate of death to record whether the decedent was ever in the Armed Forces of the United States. The bill would also require the State Department of Public Health to access data within the electronic death registration system to compile a report on veteran suicide in California and require the department to annually provide that report to the Legislature and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Current Location: Senate Rules Committee

AB 266, as amended, Thurmond. Inmates: housing assignments.

Existing law requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to conduct assessments of all inmates regarding the inmate's history of substance abuse, medical and mental health, military, and education, family background, criminal activity, service in the United States social functioning for use in placing the inmate in programs that will aid in his or her reentry to society and that will most likely reduce the inmate's chances of reoffending.

This bill would require the department, in making an initial inmate housing assignment, to consider whether the inmate is eligible for public mental health services due to a serious mental illness or whether the inmate currently is eligible for benefits under the federal Social Security Disability Insurance program due to a diagnosed mental illness.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 296, as amended, Cervantes. Task Force on California Women Veterans Health.

Existing law establishes the Department of Veterans Affairs and requires the department to develop a transition assistance program to assist veterans successfully transition from military to civilian life and complement the transition program offered by the United States Department of Defense.

This bill would, until July 1, 2023, establish the Task Force on California Women Veterans Health Care, within the department, comprised of 9 voting members appointed by the Secretary of Veteran Affairs. The bill would prohibit task force members from receiving compensation or reimbursement of expenses for their service. The bill would require the secretary to designate an employee of the department to serve as a nonvoting representative of the department to the task force and would require the department to provide staff support to the task force. The bill would require the task force to study the health care needs of women veterans in the state, as specified.

The bill would also require the task force to submit an annual report, commencing on or before January 1, 2021, and until January 1, 2023, inclusive, to the Governor and the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature that includes the task force's findings and recommendations. The bill would require the task force, when conducting its study and preparing its annual report, 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 offices.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 331, as amended, Eggman. County recorders: veterans: recorded documents.

Existing law directs the county recorder, if any military veteran or a family member or legal representative of the veteran authorized by law to receive a certified copy of specified documents requests the recordation of any military discharge document, including a veteran's service form DD214, to sign a form that acknowledges that the document becomes part of the official record of the county.

This bill would remove the directive to require the veteran or authorized person sign a form acknowledging that the document becomes part of the official record of the county. This bill would instead require a county recorder, upon presentation of an updated veteran's service form DD214 by any military veteran or any person authorized to receive a certified copy of certain records related to service in the armed forces to remove the previously recorded veteran's service form DD214 from the record and record the updated veteran's service form DD214 in its place. The bill would additionally require a county recorder to withdraw a recorded veteran's service form DD214 at the request of the military veteran or the person authorized to receive a certified copy of certain records related to service in the armed forces. By increasing the duties of local officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 353, as amended, Voepel. Employment policy: voluntary veterans' preference.

Under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, it is an unlawful employment practice for an employer, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or applicable security regulations established by the United States or the State of California, to refuse to hire or employ a person or to refuse to select a person for a training program leading to employment, or to bar or discharge a person from employment or a training program leading to employment, or to discriminate against a person in compensation or in terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of the race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran status of that person. The California Fair Employment and Housing Act provides that nothing in that act relating to discrimination on account of sex affects the right of an employer to use veteran status as a factor in employee selection or to give special consideration to Vietnam-era veterans.

This bill would enact the Voluntary Veterans' Preference Employment Policy Act to authorize a private employer to establish and maintain a written veterans' preference employment policy, to be applied uniformly to hiring decisions, to give a voluntary preference for hiring or retaining a veteran over another qualified applicant or employee. The bill would provide that the granting of a veterans' preference pursuant to the bill, in and of itself, shall be deemed not to violate any

local or state equal employment opportunity law or regulation, including, but not limited to, the antidiscrimination provisions of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. The bill would revise the existing veteran status provision in the California Fair Employment and Housing Act to remove references to discrimination on account of sex and to Vietnam-era veterans, and would, instead, provide that nothing in that act relating to discrimination affects the right of an employer to use veteran status as a factor in hiring decisions if the employer maintains a veterans' preference employment policy established in accordance with the Voluntary Veterans' Preference Employment Policy Act. The bill would prohibit a veterans' preference employment policy from being established or applied for the purpose of discriminating against an employment applicant on the basis of a protected classification, as specified.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 358, as amended, Grayson. Regional economic development areas.

The Military Base Reuse Authority Act authorizes counties and cities located wholly or partly within the boundaries of a military base to establish a military base reuse authority to prepare, adopt, finance, and implement a plan for the future use and development of the territory occupied by the military base.

This bill would create the Regional Economic Development Area Act, which would authorize a city, county, or city and county to designate an area within the city, county, or city and county that includes an active or inactive military base and up to ___ square miles surrounding the military base as a regional economic development area, and submit that area to the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development for certification. The bill would provide that a regional economic development area certified pursuant to these provisions would receive priority for any grant of funds from a state agency for projects within that regional economic development area. The bill would require the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to adopt regulations for the implementation of these provisions.

Current Location: Assembly Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy Committee

AB 360, as amended, Muratsuchi. The State Bar: pro bono legal assistance: veterans.

The State Bar Act declares that it has been the tradition of those licensed to practice law in this state to provide voluntary pro bono legal services to those who cannot afford the help of a lawyer, and that, in view of their expertise in areas that critically affect the lives and well-being of members of the public, lawyers are uniquely situated to provide invaluable assistance in order to benefit those who might otherwise be unable to assert or protect their interests.

This bill would require the State Bar of California to administer a program to coordinate pro bono civil legal assistance to veterans and their families who otherwise cannot afford legal services. The bill would also require the State Bar to provide resources and educational materials to attorneys and the public by, among other things, compiling a list of local bar associations, legal aid organizations, veterans service providers, and volunteer attorneys willing to provide pro bono legal services to veterans and posting the list on its Internet Web site, and by conducting a statewide survey of programs that provide civil legal assistance to veterans in order to identify whether and where there is a need for legal advice clinics, publishing a report and recommendations based upon its findings, and posting the report on its Internet Web site.

Current Location: Assembly Floor

AB 363, as introduced, Quirk-Silva. Driver's licenses: veteran designation.

Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue a driver's license to an applicant when the department determines that the applicant is lawfully entitled to a license.

Existing law allows an in-person applicant for a driver's license or identification card to request the word "VETERAN" be printed on the face of the driver's license or identification card, subject to certain requirements, including, among others, verification of veteran status, as specified, and payment of a \$5 fee, which the department is authorized to increase by regulation, in an amount not to exceed \$15, as specified.

This bill would prohibit a fee from being charged for the above-described request if made by (1) a person who has been determined to have a current income level that meets the eligibility requirements for specified assistance programs or (2) a person who can verify his or her status as a homeless person, as defined. The bill would authorize a homeless services provider, as defined, that has knowledge of the person's housing status to verify the person's status for purposes of this provision. The bill would require the determination of eligibility of these persons to be subject to regulations adopted by the department, as specified.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 365, as amended, Muratsuchi. Pupil instruction: coursework and graduation requirements: children of military families.

(1) Existing law requires a school district to exempt a pupil in foster care, a pupil who is a homeless child or youth, or a former juvenile court school pupil who transfers between schools any time after the completion of the pupil's 2nd year of high school from all coursework and

other requirements adopted by the governing board of the school district that are in addition to certain statewide coursework requirements unless the school district makes a finding that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the school district's graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the pupil's 4th year of high school. Existing law requires, among other things, the school district to take specified actions if it determines that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the school district's graduation requirements within the pupil's 5th year of high school.

This bill would extend these provisions to a pupil who is a child of a military family, as defined. By requiring school districts to perform additional duties in complying with the exemption requirements, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law requires a school district and county office of education to accept coursework satisfactorily completed by a pupil in foster care, a pupil who is a homeless child or youth, or a former juvenile court school pupil while attending another public school, a juvenile court school, or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency even if the pupil did not complete the entire course and requires the school district and county office of education to issue that pupil full or partial credit for the coursework completed.

Existing law prohibits a school district or county office of education from, among other things, requiring a pupil in foster care, a pupil who is a homeless child or youth, or a former juvenile court school pupil to retake a course if the pupil has satisfactorily completed the entire course in a public school, a juvenile court school, or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency. Existing law prohibits a school district or county office of education from preventing a pupil in foster care, a pupil who is a homeless child or youth, or a former juvenile court school pupil from retaking or taking a course to meet the eligibility requirements for admission to the California State University or the University of California.

This bill would extend these provisions to a pupil who is a child of a military family, as defined. By requiring school districts and county offices of education to perform additional duties in complying with the requirements to accept coursework, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Senate Rules Committee

AB 376, as amended, Chávez. Veterans benefits: veteran farmers or ranchers.

Existing law establishes the Labor and Workforce Development Agency and provides that the agency consists of, among other entities, the California Workforce Development Board, the Employment Development Department, and the Employment Training Panel. Existing law establishes within state government a Department of Veterans Affairs and a Department of Food and Agriculture. Existing law provides for a variety of state benefits to veterans, including those relating to educational assistance and farm and home purchases, as specified.

This bill would, by July 1, 2018, require the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the California Department of Veterans Affairs, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Farm Service Agency, and other federal agencies as needed, to identify and post specified information to assist veterans in entering farming or ranching careers.

Current Location: Senate Rules Committee

AB 386, as amended, Gonzalez Fletcher. Legal services for deported veterans.

Existing law requires the State Department of Social Services, subject to the availability of funding, to contract with qualified nonprofit legal services organizations to provide legal services to unaccompanied, undocumented minors, as defined, who are transferred to the care and custody of the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement and who are present in this state. Existing law requires that the contracts meet certain conditions.

This bill would require the department to either contract with a qualified nonprofit legal services organization, or contract with a nonprofit agency to administer funding to nonprofit legal services organization subcontractors, to provide legal services to deported veterans, as defined. The bill would also authorize the department to include post-conviction relief services to deported veterans in the contract. The bill would require the entities providing services pursuant to these contracts to meet specified conditions. The bill would establish the Veteran Reentry Assistance Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, to accept donations from private foundations and other philanthropic entities for the purpose of expanding the number of individuals who may be provided legal services pursuant to these provisions. By establishing a new continuously appropriated fund, this bill would make an appropriation. The bill would appropriate an unspecified sum from the General Fund to the department for the purpose of implementing these provisions.

Current Location: Assembly Floor

AB 431, as amended, Bigelow. Armories: homeless shelter.

Existing law requires the Military Department to make certain state armories available to specified cities and counties for the purpose of providing temporary shelter for homeless persons from October 15 to April 15, inclusive, each year. Existing law authorizes the Adjutant General to use alternate armories as may be necessary to meet the operational needs of the Military Department and authorizes any county or city to use any armory within its jurisdiction subject to the approval of the Adjutant General.

This bill would revise these provisions to, among other things, delete the list of armories to be made available and instead require the Adjutant General, upon request by a county or city, to make state-owned armories available for the purpose of providing temporary shelter for homeless persons for the above-described time period.

Current Location: Senate Rules Committee

AB 455, as introduced, Voepel. Veterans buildings, memorials, and cemeteries.

Existing law authorizes the establishment and operation of memorial districts to provide and maintain memorial halls, assembly halls, buildings, or meeting places for the use of veteran soldiers, sailors, and marines who have honorably served the United States in any wars or campaigns, or for the use of patriotic, fraternal, or benevolent associations of those persons, as specified.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to the building of veterans memorials, buildings, and cemeteries.

Current Location: Assembly Rules Committee

AB 513, as introduced, Voepel. Uniform and travel costs.

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

This bill would increase the amount of that allowance to \$225 per year.

Current Location: Assembly Veterans Affairs Committee

AB 528, as amended, Gray. Personal income taxes: exclusion: military retirement pay.

The Personal Income Tax Law provides various exclusions from gross income in determining tax liability, including an exclusion for combat-related special compensation and death benefit

payments received by a surviving spouse or other beneficiary designated by a military veteran, as prescribed, who dies or is killed in the performance of duty, as provided.

This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, and before January 1, 2023, would exclude from gross income specified percentages of retirement pay received by a taxpayer with gross income that, excluding that retirement pay, does not exceed \$50,000, from the federal government for military service performed in the Armed Forces of the United States, the reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the National Guard.

This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 547, as amended, Chávez. California Prompt Payment Act: disabled veteran business enterprises.

The California Prompt Payment Act requires a state agency that acquires property or services pursuant to a contract with a business, including any approved change order or contract amendment, to make payment to the person or business on the date required by contract and within 45 days of receipt of an undisputed invoice or be subject to a late payment penalty, as provided. The act applies to all state agencies.

This bill would require state agencies to pay an undisputed invoice from a certified disabled veteran business enterprise, as defined, within 30 days of initial receipt. The bill would require a state agency to submit a claim on an undisputed invoice to the Controller for payment within 15 calendar days of the agency's receipt. If an agency fails to submit a correct claim schedule within 15 days of receiving an invoice, and payment is not made within 30 days of receipt, the bill would require the agency to pay penalties from its funds, as specified. The bill would create similar penalties and procedures to be applied to the Controller if the Controller fails to make payment within 15 days of receipt of a correct claim schedule and payment is not made within 30 days of agency receipt of an undisputed invoice.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 632, as amended, Acosta. Small Business Procurement and Contract Act: small business and disabled veteran business enterprises.

The Small Business Procurement and Contract Act requires state agencies to provide for small business preference in the award of contracts for goods, information technology, services, and construction, with a 5% bid preference on applicable bid specifications. This act also authorizes a

state agency to award a contract for the acquisition of goods, services, or information technology that has an estimated value of greater than \$5,000, but less than \$250,000, to a certified small business, including a microbusiness, or to a disabled veteran business enterprise, as long as the agency obtains price quotations from 2 or more certified small business, including a microbusiness, or from a disabled veteran business enterprise, without complying with specified competitive bidding requirements. Existing law requires a bidder under these provisions to submit a written declaration under penalty of perjury.

This bill would increase the value of the contract to greater than \$5,000, but less than \$500,000, for disabled veteran business enterprises under these provisions. The bill also would specify that a certified small business or disabled veteran business enterprise that utilizes this streamlined process as an alternative to the competitive bidding requirements cannot also receive the small business preference or the disabled veteran business enterprise participation incentive, as specified. By expanding the scope of contracts that may be awarded to a disabled veteran business enterprise under these provisions, the bill would expand the crime of perjury and impose a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 665, as amended, Levine. Military personnel: veterans: resentencing: mitigating circumstances.

Under existing law, most felonies are punishable by a triad of terms of incarceration in the state prison, comprised of low, middle, and upper lengths of terms. Until January 1, 2022, the choice of the appropriate term that is to best serve the interests of justice rests within the sound discretion of the court.

Existing law, effective January 1, 2015, requires the court, if it concludes that a defendant convicted of a felony offense is, or was, a member of the United States military who may be suffering from sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health problems as a result of his or her military service, to consider that circumstance as a factor in mitigation when imposing a term pursuant to the sentencing provisions above. Under existing law, this consideration does not preclude the court from considering similar trauma, injury, substance abuse, or mental health due to other causes, as evidence or factors in mitigation.

This bill would authorize any person who was sentenced for a felony conviction prior to January 1, 2015, and who is, or was, a member of the United States military and who may be suffering from any of the above-described conditions as a result of his or her military service to petition for a recall of sentence under specified conditions. The bill would require the court, upon receiving a petition, to determine whether the person satisfies the specified criteria and, if so,

would authorize the court, in its discretion, to resentence the person following a resentencing hearing.

This bill would prohibit resentencing under these provisions from resulting in the imposition of a term longer than the original sentence. The bill would also require a person who is resentenced pursuant to these provisions to be given credit for time served.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 703, as introduced, Flora. Professions and vocations: licenses: fee waivers.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of various professions and vocations by boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs. Existing law requires a board within the department to expedite the licensure process for an applicant who is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in this state if the applicant holds a current license in the same profession or vocation in another state, district, or territory. Existing law also requires a board to issue temporary licenses in specified professions to applicants as described above if certain requirements are met.

This bill would require every board within the Department of Consumer Affairs to grant a fee waiver for application and issuance of an initial license for an applicant who is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States if the applicant holds a current license in the same profession or vocation in another state, district, or territory. The bill would require that an applicant be granted fee waivers for both the application for and issuance of a license if the board charges fees for both. The bill would prohibit fee waivers from being issued for renewal of a license, for an additional license, a certificate, a registration, or a permit associated with the initial license, or for the application for an examination.

Current Location: Assembly Business & Professions Committee

AB 737, as amended, Baker. California Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Existing law, until January 1, 2020, requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to annually compile a list of names of Vietnam veterans to be added to the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the grounds of the State Capitol, as specified, and requires the department to form a specified committee to review and consider requests from the public to include names on the memorial, as specified. Existing law authorizes the names on the list to be added to the memorial

if specified requirements are met, including the availability of adequate private funding. The California Vietnam Veterans Memorial is the official state Vietnam veterans war memorial.

This bill would extend the provisions relating to the listing of names on the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the existence and operation of the committee to January 1, 2023. The bill would provide for the establishment of an "In Memory" plaque to be affixed to the memorial to honor those veterans who died as a result of subsequent illness or injury, including physical or mental injury, as specified, that can reasonably be presumed to have resulted from military service during the Vietnam War. The bill also would require the department to maintain a public, searchable "Honor Roll" database to honor those veterans, as specified. The provisions of the bill relating to the "In Memory" plaque and the "Honor Roll" database would become inoperative and be repealed on January 1, 2023.

This bill would revise the eligibility criteria for the name of a deceased Vietnam veteran to be listed on the memorial or in the database, including, but not limited to, requiring the deceased veteran to have been born or raised in, or a resident of, California, as specified. The bill would require the committee to determine whether an individual's name is to be listed on the memorial or in the database, as specified. The bill would require the department, in consultation with the committee, to identify the names of any California veterans listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. or the Vietnam veterans "In Memory Honor Roll" maintained by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and to include those names on the state's Vietnam Veterans Memorial or in the "Honor Roll" database, as appropriate. The bill would prohibit the removal of any name from the memorial or database.

Current Location: Assembly Veterans Affairs Committee

AB 809, as amended, Quirk-Silva. Veterans: public postsecondary education: veterans' priority registration for enrollment.

Existing law sets forth the missions and functions of the public institutions of higher education in the state, which include the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California. Existing law requires the California State University and each community college district, and requests the University of California, to grant, with respect to each campus in their respective segments that administers a priority enrollment system, priority registration for enrollment to a member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is a resident of California and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge, and to any member or former member of the State Military Reserve who has not received a specified discharge, for any academic term attended at one of these institutions within 15 years of leaving state or federal active duty. Existing law further requires this priority registration for enrollment to apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the institution after the military or veteran status of the student has been verified by the institution he or she attends.

Existing law also requires the California State University and each community college district, and requests the University of California, to grant, with respect to each campus in their respective segments that administers a priority enrollment system, priority registration for enrollment to a foster youth or former foster youth, as defined, or, until January 1, 2020, to a homeless youth, as defined. Existing law also requires each community college district that administers a priority enrollment system to grant priority registration for enrollment to students in the California Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services and to disabled students, as defined.

This bill would require that the priority registration for enrollment for members and former members of the Armed Forces of the United States and for members and former members of the State Military Reserve that is required by existing law, as described above, be applied notwithstanding any other law. To the extent that this provision would create new duties for community college districts, it would constitute a state-mandated local program.

Existing law authorizes a community college registered nursing program to use any diagnostic assessment tool that is commonly used in registered nursing programs and approved by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. Existing law also authorizes a community college registered nursing program to use additional multicriteria screening measures, administered in accordance with specified requirements, if it determines that the number of applicants to that registered nursing program exceeds its capacity. Existing law also authorizes such a community college registered nursing program to admit students in accordance with a random selection process or a blended combination of random selection and a multicriteria screening process, as specified.

This bill would provide that these provisions not be construed to interfere with, conflict with, or in any way diminish the priority registration for enrollment granted, pursuant to the provision of the existing law described in (1) above, to an eligible member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or to an eligible member or former member of the State Military Reserve.

Current Location: Assembly Higher Education Committee

AB 897, as introduced, Travis Allen. Military identification.

Existing law establishes in state government the Military Department, which includes the office of the Adjutant General, the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, the California Cadet Corps, and the Naval Militia. Existing law provides various protections and benefits to veterans.

This bill would require the Military Department to provide members of the state Military Reserve who honorably serve 10 years or more with a retired identification card that is suitable to assist access to state and local benefits that the retired member may be entitled to, as specified.

Current Location: Assembly Veterans Affairs Committee

AB 961, as amended, Quirk-Silva. Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program.

Under existing law, the administering agency for the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program is the Department of General Services, except in the case of contracts for professional bond services. Existing law requires the Director of General Services to adopt written policies and guidelines establishing a uniform process for state contracting to provide a disabled veteran business enterprise (DVBE) participation incentive to bidders, which all state agencies are required to use when awarding contracts.

Existing law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to perform designated activities in connection with the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program, including maintaining complete records of its promotional efforts, and tracking the effectiveness of its efforts to promote the program with periodic surveys of newly certified DVBEs to determine specified information about the DVBE's experience with the program.

This bill would require the records of the department's promotional efforts to include specified information about the business attending or participating in those promotional efforts. The bill would delete the periodic survey requirement and instead would require the department to compare a list of businesses that participate in promotional efforts with a list of those businesses that become newly certified DVBEs, and those that become prime contractors or subcontractors with the state.

Existing law requires an awarding department, upon completion of an awarded contract for which a commitment to achieve a DVBE goal was made, to require the prime contractor that entered into a subcontract with a DVBE to certify to the awarding department specified information relating to amounts paid under the contract, as specified.

This bill would require an awarding department to maintain all records of the information provided by the prime contractor pursuant to those provisions and to retain the records for a minimum of 3 years after collection. The bill would establish appropriate review procedures for those records to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the award amounts and paid amounts reported.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 973, as introduced, Low. Remote accessible vote by mail system.

Existing law permits a person, corporation, or public agency to apply to the Secretary of State for certification or conditional approval of a remote accessible vote by mail system. Existing law requires the Secretary of State to examine and certify remote accessible vote by mail systems, as specified.

Existing law permits any voter, including a voter with a disability or a military or overseas voter, to apply for and receive a vote by mail ballot from his or her county elections official.

This bill would require a county elections official to permit a voter with a disability, or a military or overseas voter, to cast his or her ballot using a certified remote accessible vote by mail system. This requirement would become operative one year after the date on which the Secretary of State certifies a remote accessible vote by mail system.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 974, as amended, Quirk-Silva. Mental Health Services Act: reporting veterans spending.

Existing law, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), an initiative measure enacted by the voters as Proposition 63 at the November 2, 2004, statewide general election, establishes the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. Existing law requires the State Department of Health Care Services, in consultation with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission and the County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California, to develop and administer instructions for the Annual Mental Health Services Act Revenue and Expenditure Report, which gathers specified information on mental health spending as a result of the MHSA, including the expenditures of funds distributed to each county. Existing law requires the counties to submit the required data and to certify the accuracy of the report.

This bill would require counties to report spending on mental health services for veterans from MHSA funds. By requiring a county to report additional information regarding the use of MHSA funds, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 986, as introduced, Gallagher. Hunting and sport fishing licenses: sport fishing license duration: reduction in license fees for veterans.

Existing law requires every person 16 years of age or older who takes any fish, reptile, or amphibian for any purpose other than profit to first obtain a sport fishing license for that purpose, with specified exceptions, and to have that license on his or her person or in his or her immediate possession when engaged in carrying out any activity authorized by the license. Existing law requires a resident or a nonresident, 16 years of age or older, upon payment of a specified fee, to be issued a sport fishing license for the period of a calendar year, or, if issued after the beginning of the year, for the remainder thereof.

This bill would instead require a resident or a nonresident, 16 years of age or older, upon payment of the fee, to be issued a sport fishing license for the period of 12 consecutive months beginning on the date of issuance.

Under existing law, a hunting license grants the privilege to take birds and mammals. Existing law requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to issue a hunting license for specified periods of time, including for a term of one year, as provided, upon payment of a fee, to eligible residents and nonresidents. Existing law requires the department to issue a lifetime hunting license, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents that authorizes a person to take birds and mammals for the life of the person, as prescribed. Existing law requires the department to issue a sport fishing license for specified periods of time, including for the period of a calendar year, as provided, upon payment of a fee, to eligible residents and nonresidents. Existing law requires the department to issue a lifetime sport fishing license, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents that authorizes a person to take fish, reptiles, and amphibians for the life of the person, as prescribed. Existing law requires the department to issue lifetime sportsman's licenses, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents that authorizes a person to take birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians for the life of the person, as prescribed.

This bill would require the department to reduce the fee required to obtain the above-described licenses by 25% for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, was honorably discharged, and is a resident of California.

Under existing law, the department issues sport fishing report cards and validations upon payment of specified fees that authorize various activities relating to the taking and possession of amphibians, reptiles, and fish for purposes other than profit.

This bill would require the department to reduce the fee required to obtain a sport fishing report card, validation, or other entitlement by 25% for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, was honorably discharged, and is a resident of California and by 50% for a person who meets those requirements and who also has a 50% or greater service-connected disability.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 998, as amended, Grayson. Veterans homes: Internet Web site.

Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of the Veterans' Home of California at various sites, and for an administrator for each home or homesite. Existing law authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to accept and process applications from veterans seeking residency at a home.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs on or before January 1, 2019, to create an admissions page on its Internet Web site that incorporates an online application option for veterans seeking admission to a home, a user-friendly wait list, contact information for an applicant to ask for assistance regarding the application process, and information on the number of veterans currently on the wait list for each level of care at each home.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1051, as introduced, Chávez. Teacher credentialing: spouses of active duty members of the Armed Forces: expedited application process.

Existing law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other duties, establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits.

This bill would require the commission to grant or deny an application for a credential within 14 days of the date that the commission received the application if the applicant supplies the commission with evidence that the applicant is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in this state, as provided, and holds a valid teaching credential in another state, district, or territory of the United States.

Current Location: Assembly Education Committee

AB 1106, as amended, Weber. Child care and development services: alternative payment programs: military families.

The Child Care and Development Services Act, administered by the State Department of Education, provides that children from infancy to 13 years of age are eligible for federal and state subsidized child development services if their families meet at least one requirement in each of certain areas. The act requires the department to contract with local contracting agencies to provide for alternative payment programs, and authorizes alternative payment programs for services provided in licensed centers and family day care homes and for other types of programs that conform to applicable law. The act requires the department to expand existing alternative payment programs and fund new alternative payment programs to the extent that funds are provided by the Legislature.

This bill would require an alternative payment program, with certain exceptions, to have no less than 36 months to expend funds allocated to that program in any fiscal year, and would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a process that provides alternative payment programs no less than 36 months to expend funds allocated to that program in any fiscal year. This bill would require, for purposes of determining eligibility for services under the act, that the income of a person who is on state or federal active duty, active duty for special work, or Active Guard and Reserve duty in the military not include the amount of the basic allowance for housing pursuant to specified federal law, if the allowance is equal to the lowest rate of the allowance for the military housing area in which the person resides.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1249, as introduced, Gray. Property taxation: exemptions: veterans' organizations.

Existing property tax law establishes a veterans' organization exemption under which property is exempt from taxation if, among other things, that property is used exclusively for charitable purposes and is owned by a veterans' organization.

This bill would provide that the veterans' organization exemption shall not be denied to a property on the basis that the property is used for fraternal, lodge, or social club purposes, and would make specific findings and declarations in that regard. The bill would also provide that the exemption shall not apply to any portion of a property that consists of a bar where alcoholic beverages are served.

Existing law requires the state to reimburse local agencies annually for certain property tax revenues lost as a result of any exemption or classification of property for purposes of ad valorem property taxation.

This bill would provide that, notwithstanding those provisions, no appropriation is made and the state shall not reimburse local agencies for property tax revenues lost by them pursuant to the bill.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1275, as introduced, Irwin. Department of Veterans Affairs: monitoring outcomes for veterans: Director of Employment Development: disclosure of information.

Existing law establishes the Department of Veterans Affairs, which is responsible for administering various programs and services for the benefit of veterans.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop outcome and related indicators for veterans, for the purpose of assessing the status of veterans in California, for monitoring the quality of programs intended to serve those veterans, and to guide decisionmaking on how to improve those services. This bill would require the department to report to the Senate and Assembly Committees on Veterans Affairs all of the outcome and related indicators developed by the department, recommendations on ways to establish a system for monitoring those indicators on a continual basis, and any regulatory or fiscal barriers that may hinder future progress on the development of a monitoring system, as provided.

Under existing law, the information obtained in the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Law is for the exclusive use and information of the Director of Employment Development in the discharge of his or her duties and is not open to the public. However, existing law requires the director to permit the use of specified information for specified purposes, and allows the director to require reimbursement for direct costs incurred. Existing law provides that a person who knowingly accesses, uses, or discloses this confidential information without authorization is guilty of a misdemeanor.

This bill would require the Director of Employment Development to permit the receipt of specified information to enable the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop outcome and related indicators for veterans. By providing this information to the Department of Veterans Affairs, this bill would expand the crime related to the unauthorized disclosure of this information, and impose a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1314, as introduced, Irwin. County mental health services: veterans.

Existing law contains provisions governing the operation and financing of community mental health services for the mentally disordered in every county through locally administered and locally controlled community mental health programs. Existing law further provides that, to the extent resources are available, the primary goal of the use of funds deposited in the mental health account of the local health and welfare trust fund should be to serve specified target populations, including, among others, California veterans in need of mental health services who meet specified eligibility requirements. Existing law prohibits a county from denying county mental health services to an eligible veteran based solely on his or her status as a veteran. Existing law requires a county to refer a veteran to the county veterans service office, if any, to determine the veteran's eligibility for, and the availability of, mental health services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any other federal health care provider.

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would simplify the process and reduce the burden placed on veterans seeking mental health services and require the counties to cooperate with federal agencies, as specified, to seek reimbursement after providing mental health services to veterans. This bill would require a county to provide mental health services to any veteran who requests treatment, without regard to his or her status as a veteran or eligibility for health services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any other federal health care provider. The bill would specify that a veteran seeking treatment by a county is not required to first seek health services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any other federal health care provider before receiving treatment from the county.

Current Location: Assembly Health Committee

AB 1355, as amended, Bocanegra. State parks: fees.

Existing law gives control of the state parks to the Department of Parks and Recreation, and requires the Director of Parks and Recreation to promote and regulate the use of the state park system in a manner that conserves the scenery, natural and historic resources, and wildlife for the enjoyment of future generations. Existing law authorizes the department to collect fees, rents, and other returns for the use of any state park system area, with the amounts of those charges to be determined by the department.

This bill would require the department to waive all fees for use, including camping where permitted, of any unit of the state park system by the California Cadet Corps or a public military academy in exchange for completing a community service project at the unit approved in advance by park officials and staff of the California Cadet Corps or the academy, as applicable.

Current Location: Assembly Floor

AB 1361, as amended, Eduardo Garcia. Veterans' homes: services: complex mental and behavioral health needs.

Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of veterans' homes at various sites, and provides for an administrator of each home, as specified. Existing law establishes the duties of the Department of Veterans Affairs with regard to the establishment and regulation of veterans' homes.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct a survey to assess the ability of veterans' homes to assist veterans with complex mental and behavioral health needs, and develop a plan to accommodate that population, as prescribed. The bill would require the department to submit the plan and any recommendations for future legislation necessary to achieve its objectives to the Legislature by January 1, ____.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1362, as amended, Irwin. Veterans bond acts.

(1) Existing law, the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act of 2014 (the 2014 bond act), authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$600,000,000, as specified, for expenditure by the California Housing Finance Agency, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide housing to veterans and their families pursuant to the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Act of 2014 (VHHPA).

This bill would enact the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act of 2017 to authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount to provide additional funding for the VHHPA. The bill would provide for the handling and disposition of the funds in the same manner as the 2014 bond act.

(2) Existing law, the Veterans' Bond Act of 2008, authorized, for purposes of financing a specified program for farm, home, and mobilehome purchase assistance for veterans, the issuance, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, of bonds in the amount of \$900,000,000.

This bill would enact the Veterans Farm and Home Bond Act of 2017 to authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount to provide additional funding for that program. The bill would provide for the handling and disposition of the funds in the same manner as the 2008 bond act.

The bill would provide for submission of the measure to the voters at an unspecified statewide election in a specified manner.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Current Location: Assembly Housing & Community Development Committee

AB 1362, as amended, Irwin. Veterans bond acts.

(1) Existing law, the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act of 2014 (the 2014 bond act), authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$600,000,000, as specified, for expenditure by the California Housing Finance Agency, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide housing to veterans and their families pursuant to the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Act of 2014 (VHHPA).

This bill would enact the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act of 2017 to authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount to provide additional funding for the VHHPA. The bill would provide for the handling and disposition of the funds in the same manner as the 2014 bond act.

(2) Existing law, the Veterans' Bond Act of 2008, authorized, for purposes of financing a specified program for farm, home, and mobilehome purchase assistance for veterans, the issuance, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, of bonds in the amount of \$900,000,000.

This bill would enact the Veterans Farm and Home Bond Act of 2017 to authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount to provide additional funding for that program. The bill would provide for the handling and disposition of the funds in the same manner as the 2008 bond act.

Current Location: Assembly Housing & Community Development Committee.

AB 1365, as amended, Reyes. Veterans homes: planning strategy.

Existing law establishes various veterans homes for the benefit of the aged and disabled persons who served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs, on or before January 1, 2019, and annually thereafter, to submit to the Legislature and post on its Internet Web site a specified financial report of the veterans homes located in Barstow, Chula Vista, Fresno, Lancaster, Redding, Ventura, West Los Angeles, and Yountville.

The bill would further require the department to review the use of a veterans home, using specified factors, no later than 5 years before the expiration of a specified use restriction imposed by federal law to determine the best continued, unrestricted use of the veterans home. The bill would require the department, every 5 years after the date of the expiration of the use restriction, to review the veterans home, using specified factors, to determine its best continued use.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1403, as amended, Obernolte. Military and overseas voters: return of ballot by electronic means.

Existing law sets forth the procedures for military or overseas voters, as defined, to register to vote, to apply for voting ballots, and to vote. Existing law requires voting materials to be electronically transmitted to a military or overseas voter and authorizes a voter to return his or her vote by mail ballot by facsimile transmission.

In addition to facsimile transmission, this bill would authorize a military or overseas voter to return his or her vote by mail ballot by other electronic means including, but not limited to, email. The bill would require a voter who submits his or her ballot by electronic means, other than by facsimile transmission, to send the hard copy of his or her voted ballot by postal mail to the elections official. By imposing additional duties on elections officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The bill would also require the Secretary of State to adopt and publish regulations, as specified, governing the submission of ballots by electronic means, including facsimile transmission, which preserve the integrity of the voting and elections processes, and would require that those regulations protect against the unauthorized interception of ballot information by including requirements that ensure the ability of elections officials to secure, use, audit, and verify ballots sent by electronic means.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1477, as introduced, Brough. Veterans' preferences: voluntary policy.

Under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, it is an unlawful employment practice for an employer, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or applicable security regulations established by the United States or the State of California, to refuse to hire or employ a person or to refuse to select a person for a training program leading to employment, or to bar or discharge a person from employment or a training program leading to employment, or to discriminate against a person in compensation or in terms, conditions, or privileges of

employment because of the race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran status of that person. The California Fair Employment and Housing Act provides that nothing in that act relating to discrimination on account of sex affects the right of an employer to use veteran status as a factor in employee selection or to give special consideration to Vietnam War-era veterans.

This bill would enact the Voluntary Veterans' Preference Employment Policy Act to authorize a private employer to establish and maintain a written veterans' preference employment policy, to be applied uniformly to hiring decisions, to give a voluntary preference for hiring or retaining a veteran over another qualified applicant or employee. The bill would provide that the granting of a veterans' preference pursuant to the bill, in and of itself, shall be deemed not to violate any local or state equal employment opportunity law or regulation, including, but not limited to, the antidiscrimination provisions of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. The bill would revise the existing veteran status provision in the California Fair Employment and Housing Act to remove references to discrimination on account of sex and to Vietnam War-era veterans, and would, instead, provide that nothing in that act relating to discrimination affects the right of an employer to use veteran status as a factor in hiring decisions if the employer maintains a veterans' preference employment policy established in accordance with the Voluntary Veterans' Preference Employment Policy Act. The bill would prohibit a veterans' preference employment policy from being established or applied for the purpose of discriminating against an employment applicant on the basis of a protected classification, as specified.

Current Location: Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs

AB 1618, as amended, Cervantes. Veteran service providers.

Existing law establishes the Department of Veterans Affairs. Among other duties, the department is authorized to assist every veteran of any war of the United States and the dependent or survivor of every veteran in presenting and pursuing claims against the United States that the veteran may have arising from war service and in establishing the veteran's or dependent's right to privilege, preference, care, or compensation as provided for by federal or state law, as specified.

Existing law also authorizes the board of supervisors of a county to grant financial assistance, relief, and support to indigent veterans. Existing law requires an organization desiring to assist indigent veterans to first file with the board of supervisors of the county in which it is operating or intending to operate a verified statement setting forth specified information regarding the organization, including its financial condition.

This bill would establish a certification process for the certification of California veteran service providers, as defined, by the department. The bill would require an applicant for certification to provide specified information to the department upon application or, after certification, at the request of the department, as prescribed. The bill would authorize the department to charge a fee for certification under these provisions, as specified.

The bill would also establish a competitive grant program, to be administered by the department, for purposes of awarding grant moneys to certified California veteran service providers for purposes of providing support to veterans and their families, as specified. The bill would require competitive grants to be awarded in support of the state's strategic plan for providing veterans with transition assistance. The bill would require the department to adopt regulations to implement the program and to define criteria for supporting the state's strategic plan. The bill would continuously appropriate moneys from the General Fund to the department to administer the program.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1709, as introduced, Committee on Veterans Affairs. Armories: sales: local agency.

Existing law authorizes the Director of General Services, with the approval of the Adjutant General, to lease and sell real property held for armory purposes, subject to legislative approval. Existing law establishes the Armory Fund and requires that all proceeds from the sale or lease of armories be deposited into the fund, for use, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for specified purposes related to armories.

This bill would require that an armory be offered for sale to a local agency, as defined, prior to being offered for sale to private entities or individuals, as provided. The bill would also require the Department of General Services to maintain a list of excess armories in a conspicuous place on its Internet Web site and to provide local agencies and, upon request, members of the public, with electronic notification of updates to the list of properties.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1710, as introduced, Committee on Veterans Affairs. Prohibited discrimination against service members.

(1) Existing law prohibits various types of discrimination against an officer, warrant officer, or enlisted member of the military or naval forces of the state or of the United States because of his or her membership or service, including, among others, discrimination with respect to his or her

employment. Existing law provides criminal penalties and civil remedies for violations of these prohibitions.

This bill would include, within these prohibitions, discrimination in terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, as specified. By expanding the scope of these prohibitions, this bill would expand the scope of a crime, and thus impose a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1711, as introduced, Committee on Veterans Affairs. State military reserve: leave benefits.

Existing law provides for leave for military service, rights and benefits accrued during that service, and reinstatement after that service for executive branch employees who are members of the Armed Forces, the National Guard, or the Naval Militia, as specified.

This bill would provide that a member of the State Military Reserve be granted military leave and other specified benefits on the same basis as a member of the National Guard or other military reserve member.

Current Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

ACR 41, Bonta. Bataan Death March Veterans Commemoration Day.

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

Current Location: Chaptered by Secretary of State - Res. Chapter 40, Statutes of 2017.

ACR 67, as introduced, Aguiar-Curry. Veterans' Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a portion of State Highway Route 29 in the County of Napa as the Veterans' Memorial Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs, as specified, and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Current Location: Assembly Transportation Committee

ACR 70, as introduced, Salas. Staff Sergeant Ricardo “Ricky” Barraza Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Route 43 in the City of Shafter in the County of Kern as the Staff Sergeant Ricardo “Ricky” Barraza Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering the cost, to erect those signs.

Current Location: Assembly Transportation Committee

ACR 79, as introduced, Salas. Blue Star Mothers of America Month.

This measure would recognize May 2017 as Blue Star Mothers of America Month, as specified.

Current Location: Assembly Rules Committee

ACR 82, as introduced, Chávez. Armed Forces Day.

This measure would honor and recognize the service and sacrifice made by members of the Armed Forces and their families on the occasion of Armed Forces Day on May 20, 2017.

Current Location: Assembly Rules Committee

AJR 5, as introduced, Medina. Military Lending Act.

This measure would urge Congress to prevail upon the Department of Defense to realign its criteria for the safe harbor provision in order to avoid the requirement of a social security number.

Current Location: Assembly Business & Professions Committee

SB 14, as introduced, Gaines. National Guard: bonuses: tax reimbursement.

Existing law provides for various benefits for veterans, including, but not limited to, educational, housing, and financial assistance. The Personal Income Tax Law imposes taxes on an individual tax payer measured by the taxpayer's taxable income for the taxable year, as provided.

This bill would create a grant program to repay members of the National Guard who paid taxes on an enlistment bonus awarded on or after January 1, 2004, and before January 1, 2011, that the member was required to repay. The bill would provide a grant in the amount equal to the taxes that the member paid on that bonus. This bill would require the Franchise Tax Board to create an application for this grant program, and would appropriate, from the General Fund to the Franchise Tax Board, the amount necessary to fund the grants and the administration of this grant program and the exclusion described below.

The Personal Income Tax Law provides for various exclusions from gross income, including state income tax refunds and rewards received from a government authorized crime hotline.

This bill would exclude from gross income the amount granted to the member of the National Guard that is equal to the amount of taxes paid on an enlistment bonus that was repaid.

Current Location: Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

SB 27, as amended, Morrell. Professions and vocations: licenses: military service.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of various professions and vocations by boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs. Existing law authorizes any licensee or registrant whose license expired while he or she was on active duty as a member of the California National Guard or the United States Armed Forces to reinstate his or her license or registration without examination or penalty if certain requirements are met.

Existing law also requires the boards to waive the renewal fees, continuing education requirements, and other renewal requirements, if applicable, of any licensee or registrant called to active duty as a member of the United States Armed Forces or the California National Guard, if certain requirements are met. Existing law requires each board to inquire in every application if the individual applying for licensure is serving in, or has previously served in, the military. Existing law requires a board within the Department of Consumer Affairs to expedite, and authorizes a board to assist with, the initial licensure process for an applicant who has served as an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces and was honorably discharged.

This bill would require every board within the Department of Consumer Affairs to grant a fee waiver for the application for and the issuance of an initial license to an applicant who supplies satisfactory evidence, as defined, to the board that the applicant has served as an active duty

member of the California National Guard or the United States Armed Forces and was honorably discharged. The bill would require that a veteran be granted only one fee waiver, except as specified.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 156, as amended, Anderson. Military and veterans: transition assistance: citizenship.

Existing law requires, by July 1, 2015, the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop a transition assistance program for veterans who have been discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard of any state, as specified.

This bill would require the transition assistance program for veterans to provide information to noncitizens who are leaving military service in California or who have already been discharged from military service in California on how to become citizens, and to assist these noncitizens in filling out the necessary forms and paperwork.

Existing law establishes the militia of the state, consisting of the National Guard, State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia. Under existing law, the militia of the state consists of all able-bodied male citizens and all other able-bodied males who have declared their intention to become citizens of the United States, who are between 18 and 45 years of age, and who are residents of the state.

This bill would require the California National Guard to inform its members that it will assist noncitizen members in acquiring United States citizenship as soon as they are eligible. The bill would additionally require the California National Guard to, upon request of a noncitizen member, assist the member in filing all forms and paperwork necessary to become a United States Citizen.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 197, as amended, Bates. Sales and use taxes: exemption: military and veteran medical facilities.

Existing state sales and use tax laws impose a tax on retailers measured by the gross receipts from the sale of tangible personal property sold at retail in this state of, state, or on the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of, of tangible personal property purchased from a retailer for storage, use, or other consumption in this state. The Sales and Use Tax Law provides various exemptions from those taxes, including an exemption for the sale of, or the storage, use, or other consumption of, meals and food products that are furnished or served by any nonprofit veteran's organization for purposes of fundraising, as specified.

This bill would exempt from these taxes the gross receipts from the sale of, and the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of, building materials and supplies purchased by a qualified person for use by that qualified person in the construction of specified military and veteran medical facilities.

The Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law authorizes cities and counties to impose local sales and use taxes in conformity with the Sales and Use Tax Law, and existing laws authorize districts, as specified, to impose transactions and use taxes in accordance with the Transactions and Use Tax Law, which generally conforms to the Sales and Use Tax Law. Amendments to the Sales and Use Tax Law are automatically incorporated into the local tax laws.

Current Location: Assembly Desk

SB 266, as introduced, Dodd. Armed service members: consumer loans.

(1) Existing federal law, the Military Lending Act, prohibits a creditor who extends consumer credit to a covered member of the armed forces or a dependent of such a member from requiring that member or dependent to pay interest with respect to the extension of such credit, unless an exception to that rule applies. The federal act also requires a creditor to satisfy other terms and conditions before extending consumer credit to a covered member, and to comply with mandatory disclosure requirements, as specified. Any person who violates the federal act is subject to both criminal and civil penalties.

Existing law, the Banking Law, prescribes the conditions pursuant to which a state-chartered bank may engage in the practice of banking. The California Credit Union Law provides for the regulation of credit unions within the state by the Commissioner of Business Oversight. Existing law imposes both criminal and civil penalties for violations of the Banking Law and the California Credit Union Law. Existing law requires a state-chartered bank or a credit union when making or extending a refund anticipation loan to comply with the provision of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 that added the Military Lending Act. Existing law, the California Finance Lenders Law, provides for the licensure and regulation of finance lenders and brokers by the Commissioner of Business Oversight. Existing law, the California Deferred Deposit Transaction Law, provides for the licensure and regulation by the commissioner of persons engaged in the business of making or arranging deferred deposit transactions. A wilful violation of either the California Finance Lenders Law or the California Deferred Deposit Transaction Law is a crime. Existing law makes it unlawful under the California Finance Lenders Law and the California Deferred Deposit Transaction Law to violate the provision of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 that added the Military Lending Act.

This bill would amend the laws described above to update the references to the Military Lending Act in order to incorporate amendments to that act, and its applicable regulations.

(2) Existing law provides that any person who violates specified provisions prohibiting discrimination against a member of the military or naval forces of this state or the United States, including discrimination with respect to the terms of a loan or financing based on that person's membership in the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States, is guilty of a misdemeanor. Existing law exempts from the discrimination provisions, with respect to loans and transactions covered by the section of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 that added the Military Lending Act, any person who does not market or extend consumer loans to specified covered borrowers, and any person who does not market deferred deposit transactions to, or enter into such transactions with, specified covered borrowers.

This bill would update the references to the Military Lending Act in order to incorporate amendments to that act, and its applicable regulations.

(3) Because this bill amends state statutes, the violation of which is a misdemeanor, to include references to an updated federal statute, this bill would expand the scope of existing crimes, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Assembly Desk

SB 330, as amended, Berryhill. Building permit fees: waiver.

Existing law requires each city, county, or city and county to collect a fee from any applicant for a building permit, assessed at the rate of \$4 per \$100,000 in valuation, as determined by the local building official, as specified.

This bill would authorize these entities to waive all building permit fees in the case of a veteran who has a service-connected disability, as recognized by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, and is making improvements to his or her home to accommodate that disability.

Current Location: Senate Floor

SB 339, as introduced, Roth. Veterans treatment courts: Judicial Council assessment and survey.

Existing law establishes a statewide system of courts with a superior court of one or more judges in each county. Existing law authorizes the Judicial Council to prescribe the methods, means,

and standards for electronic collection of data related to court administration, practice, and procedure.

This bill would require the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature on a study of veterans and veterans treatment courts that includes a statewide assessment, as specified, of veterans treatment courts currently in operation and a survey of counties that do not operate veterans treatment courts that identifies barriers to program implementation and assesses the need for veterans treatment courts in those counties, if funds are received for that purpose. The bill would require the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature on the results of the study, as specified, on or before June 1, 2020. The bill would create the Veterans Court Assessment Fund in the State Treasury, administered by the Judicial Council, and would authorize the fund to accept private donations, as specified. The bill would appropriate specified sums from the Veterans Court Assessment Fund and from the General Fund for the purpose of conducting the study and report.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 404, as amended, Stone. Property taxation: senior and disabled veterans.

(1) The California Constitution generally limits ad valorem taxes on real property to 1% of the full cash value, as defined, of that property, and provides that the full cash value base may be adjusted each year by the inflationary rate not to exceed 2% for any given year.

Existing property tax law implementing this constitutional authority provides that the taxable value of real property is the lesser of its base year value compounded annually by an inflation factor not to exceed 2%, as provided, or its full cash value. Existing property tax law also provides that the taxable value of a manufactured home is the lesser of its base year value compounded annually by an inflation factor not to exceed 2% or its full cash value.

This bill, for any assessment year commencing on or after January 1, 2018, would provide that the inflation factor shall not apply to the principal place of residence, including a manufactured home, of a qualified veteran, as defined, who is 65 years of age or older on the lien date, was honorably discharged from military service, and meets specified requirements. By changing the manner in which local tax officials calculate the taxable value of real property owned by senior veterans, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing property tax law provides, pursuant to the authorization of the California Constitution, a disabled veteran's property tax exemption for the principal place of residence of a veteran or a veteran's spouse, including an unmarried surviving spouse, if the veteran, because of injury incurred in military service, is blind in both eyes, has lost the use of 2 or more limbs, or is totally disabled, as those terms are defined, or if the veteran has, as a result of a service-connected injury or disease, died while on active duty in military service. Existing law exempts

that part of the full value of the residence that does not exceed \$100,000, or \$150,000, if the veteran's household income does not exceed \$40,000, adjusted for inflation, as specified.

This bill, commencing with the lien date for the 2018–19 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, would instead exempt the full value of the principal place of residence of a veteran or veteran's spouse. The bill would also make technical and conforming changes to the disabled veteran's property tax exemption. By changing the manner in which local tax officials administer the disabled veteran's property tax exemption, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(3) Existing law requires the state to reimburse local agencies annually for certain property tax revenues lost as a result of any exemption or classification of property for purposes of ad valorem property taxation.

This bill would provide that, notwithstanding those provisions, no appropriation is made and the state shall not reimburse local agencies for property tax revenues lost by them pursuant to the bill.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 408, as introduced, Nguyen. Income taxes withholding: exemption: active duty residents.

Existing law requires every employer who pays wages to an employee for services performed in this state to withhold from those wages specified income taxes, with certain exclusions, including an exclusion from withholding wages, salaries, fees, or other compensation paid by a corporation for services performed in the state for that corporation to a nonresident corporate director for director services. Existing law authorizes the Franchise Tax Board to impose specified requirements for withholding of those taxes.

This bill also would exclude from withholding wages, salaries, fees, or other compensation paid to a resident of the state while he or she is in active military duty.

Current Location: Senate Governance & Finance Committee

SB 409, as amended, Nguyen. Veterans homes: residents with complex mental and behavioral health needs.

Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of veterans' homes at various sites, and provides for an administrator of each home, as specified. Existing law establishes the duties

of the Department of Veterans Affairs with regard to the establishment and regulation of veterans' homes.

This bill would, on or before January 1, 2019, require the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop a plan to accommodate more veterans suffering from complex mental and behavioral health needs as resident members of the state veterans homes which operate within the Veterans' Home of California System.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 410, as amended, Nguyen. Civil service: veterans' hiring preference: active duty members.

The State Civil Service Act prescribes a comprehensive civil service personnel system for the state and specifically provides certain preferences for veterans. The act grants to a person retired from the United States military, honorably discharged from active military duty with a service-connected disability, or honorably discharged from active duty eligibility for civil service examinations for which they meet the minimum qualifications for the classification. The act requires that, in evaluating minimum qualifications, related military experience be considered state civil service experience in a comparable class, based on the duties and responsibilities assigned. The act also requires that request for and proof of eligibility for the veterans' preference be submitted by the veteran to the Department of Human Resources or the designated appointing authority conducting the employment examination, subject to rules promulgated by the Department of Human Resources in consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

This bill would authorize the Department of Human Resources or the designated appointing authority, in order to facilitate a request for veterans' preference from a currently serving active duty member of the United States Armed Forces, to use a signed document by the applicant's commanding officer of the military to verify that applicant's military service. The bill would require the department or designated authority, before the applicant enters state service with the benefit of veterans' preference, to otherwise require the same proof of eligibility for veterans' preference generally used.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 411, as amended, Nguyen. State military reservists: service awards.

Existing law establishes the Military Department, which includes the State Military Reserve and the Naval Militia, to perform various duties regarding the state militia. Existing law authorizes the presentation of a good conduct medal to each person who, while an enlisted member of the State Military Reserve or the Naval Militia, has demonstrated fidelity through faithful and exact

performance of duty, and efficiency through capacity to produce desired results, and whose behavior has demonstrated that he or she deserves emulation.

This bill would establish the State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award Act. This bill would make an appropriation of \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Military Department to, among other things, pay an award of \$100 per month for life to a qualified person, which this bill would generally define as any person who is 50 years of age or older and who completes 10 years of satisfactory volunteer service in the State Military Reserve or the Naval Militia, as specified.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 455, as amended, Newman. Pupil enrollment: military dependents.

Existing law provides that each person between 6 and 18 years of age not exempted is subject to compulsory full-time education and requires a person subject to compulsory education to attend the public full-time day school or continuation school or classes in the school district in which the residence of the parents or legal guardian is located. Existing law states that a pupil complies with the residency requirements if the pupil's parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the boundaries of the school district while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order, and requires a parent to provide proof of residence within 10 days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation.

This bill would instead provide that a pupil complies with the residency requirements if the pupil's parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order, and would require a parent to provide proof of residence in the school district within 10 days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation. To the extent the bill imposes additional duties on school districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. procedures for making that reimbursement.

Current Location: Assembly Desk

SB 485, as amended, Nielsen. Veterans' homes.

Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of veterans' homes at various sites, and provides for an administrator of each home, as specified. Existing law establishes the duties of the Department of Veterans Affairs with regard to the establishment and regulation of veterans' homes.

This bill would revise and recast those provisions. Among other things, the bill would provide that the administrator is the senior executive appointed to oversee the operations of a veterans' home. The bill would specify which veterans' homes are administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The bill would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to adopt uniform statewide policies and procedures, by regulation, for the operation of those veterans' homes, as specified. The bill would make findings and declarations and state the intent of the Legislature to monitor the department's efforts to implement a statewide electronic health record for its system of veterans' homes.

Existing law establishes the criteria for admission to a veterans' home, as specified. Existing law establishes the fees and charges for residency, as established by each administrator of a home, and requires each administrator to adopt rules and regulations for the administration of the homes.

This bill would instead require that the fees and charges be established by the secretary, rather than by each administrator, and that the secretary adopt rules and regulations that apply to the homes and the criteria for admission. The bill would authorize the secretary to establish needs-based criteria for admission to veterans' homes and to prioritize admission for veterans with service-related disabilities, as specified.

Existing law authorizes a resident spouse to continue his or her residency after a veteran spouse's death.

This bill would require a resident spouse who continues residency after a veteran spouse's death to continue to pay all applicable fees and to comply with all department regulations, and would expand those provisions to include domestic partners.

Existing law authorizes the department to investigate a veteran's financial status for admission purposes.

This bill would further authorize the department to determine a resident's or applicant's income or suitability for residence at a veterans' home and would provide that providing false information or failure to pay fees is grounds for financial penalties or discharge from a veterans' home.

Existing law requires 100% of the moneys received by a veterans' home from veterans receiving federal aid to be placed to the credit of the home to augment the current appropriation for the support of the home.

This bill would delete that provision.

Existing law requires members of a veterans' home to pay fees and charges as determined by the department, subject to a specified fee schedule.

This bill would provide that failure to pay fees is cause for the administrator to refer the resident to collections or dismiss the resident from the home.

Existing law, upon the death of a veteran in a home, requires any moneys not in excess of \$3,000 held by the home for the veteran to be paid to the home's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Fund, a continuously appropriated special fund, if no will or heir or other family member is discovered within a specified number of years after his or her death.

This bill would increase the amount that may be transferred to \$15,000, thereby making an appropriation.

Existing law, upon the departure of a veteran from a home, requires any moneys not in excess of \$3,000 held by the home for the veteran to be paid to the home's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Fund, a continuously appropriated special fund, if the money is not requested by the veteran within a specified number of years after his or her departure.

This bill would increase the amount that may be transferred to \$5,000, thereby making an appropriation.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 570, as amended, Newman. CalWORKs.

Existing federal law provides for the allocation of federal funds through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant program to eligible states. Existing law provides for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program under which, through a combination of state and county funds and federal funds received through the TANF program, each county provides cash assistance and other benefits to qualified low-income families. Under existing law, certain amounts are exempt from the calculation of family income for purposes of determining the amount of a grant under the CalWORKs program, including specified amounts of disability-based unearned income and earned income.

This bill would exempt benefits and related allowances received through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for education, training, vocation, or rehabilitation from consideration as income for determining eligibility for CalWORKs program benefits and available income for veterans and their spouses and dependents, under specified circumstances.

Existing law continuously appropriates moneys from the General Fund to defray a portion of county costs under the CalWORKs program.

This bill would instead provide that the continuous appropriation would not be made for purposes of implementing the bill.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 594, as amended, Beall. Department of Transportation: contracts.

Existing federal law implements the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program to foster equal opportunity to firms owned by disadvantaged individuals on United States Department of Transportation-assisted contracts.

This bill would require the Department of Transportation, to the extent permitted under state and federal law, to establish and meet specified goals relating to the participation rates by small businesses and disadvantaged business enterprises in both federally funded projects and state-funded projects, and to the participation rate by disabled veteran business enterprises in state-funded projects.

Current Location: Senate Transportation & Housing Committee

SB 626, as amended, Newman. Military and veterans: enlisted persons.

Existing law establishes within state government a Military Department headed by an Adjutant General. Existing law includes within the Military Department the office of the Adjutant General, the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, the California Cadet Corps, and the Naval Militia. Existing law also generally governs the administration of military and veterans' affairs, including those relating to enlisted men and women.

This bill would deem any reference in the Military and Veterans Code to "enlisted man or woman" or "enlisted men or women" to refer to "enlisted person" or "enlisted persons."

Current Location: Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

SB 694, as amended, Newman. California Community Colleges: Veteran Resource Centers.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes them to operate campuses and provide instruction to students. Existing law authorizes the governing board of a community college district to provide a counseling program.

This bill would require the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges to ensure that each of its campuses provides a dedicated on-campus Veteran Resource Center that offers services to help student veterans transition successfully from military life to educational success through the core components of academics, wellness, and camaraderie and would require those Veteran Resource Centers, at a minimum, to be open for 25 hours a week, be staffed by veterans whenever possible, be 400 square feet and fully accessible, and provide enrolled student veterans with specified services, except as provided. By imposing additional duties on community college districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 725, as introduced, Jackson. Veterans: pretrial diversion: driving privileges.

Existing law authorizes a court, with the consent of the defendant and a waiver of the defendant's speedy trial right, to postpone prosecution, either temporarily or permanently, of a misdemeanor and place the defendant in a pretrial diversion program, if the defendant was, or currently is, a member of the United States military and if he or she may be suffering from sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health problems as a result of his or her military service. Existing law authorizes the defendant to be referred to services for treatment.

Existing law makes it unlawful for a person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug to drive a vehicle, or to drive a vehicle and concurrently do any act forbidden by law which causes bodily injury to any person other than the driver. In any case in which a person is charged with a violation of these provisions, existing law prohibits a court from suspending or staying the proceedings prior to acquittal or conviction or from dismissing the proceedings because the accused person attends or participates in a treatment program.

This bill would, notwithstanding any other law, including the above-described provision, specify that a misdemeanor offense for which a defendant may be placed in a pretrial diversion program in accordance with the above-described program includes a misdemeanor violation of driving under the influence or driving under the influence and causing bodily injury. The bill would not limit the authority of the Department of Motor Vehicles to take administrative action concerning the driving privileges of a person arrested for a violation of those provisions.

Current Location: Assembly Desk

SB 728, as introduced, Newman. State public employees: sick leave: veterans with service-related disabilities.

Existing law prescribes the general workweek policy for state employees, subject to specified exceptions, and the terms and conditions for accrual of vacation and sick leave. Existing law generally provides that a state officer or employee who is employed full time accrues one day of credit for sick leave for each calendar month of service. Existing law requires that if these provisions conflict with an adopted memorandum of understanding, the memorandum of understanding controls, as specified.

Existing law, the California Wounded Warriors Transitional Leave Act, grants a state officer or employee who is a military veteran hired on or after January 1, 2016, with a military service-connected disability rated at 30% or more by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs an additional credit for sick leave with pay of up to 96 hours for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment for his or her military service-related disability. Existing law requires that the sick leave be credited to a qualifying officer or employee on the first day of employment and remain available for use for the following 12 months of employment.

This bill would grant a state officer or employee who serves as a member of the National Guard or federal military reserve force who is called up to active military service and as a result sustains a military service-connected disability rated at 30% or more by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs an additional credit for sick leave with pay of up to 96 hours for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment for his or her military service-connected disability. The bill would require that the sick leave be credited to a qualifying officer or employee on the first day of his or her return to state employment and remain available for use for the following 12 months of employment.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 731, as amended, Newman. Public school employees: military veterans: leave of absence for illness or injury.

Existing law requires a certificated employee hired on or after January 1, 2017, who is a military veteran with a military service-connected disability rated at 30% or more by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be entitled to a leave of absence for illness or injury with pay of up to 10 days for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment for his or her military service-connected disability, as specified.

This bill would expand these requirements to include a certificated employee who is a member or military veteran of the California National Guard or reserve component of the federal military returning from a federal military mobilization with a military service-connected disability rated

at 30% or more by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that was incurred during the federal active duty recently completed.

Existing law requires a classified employee hired on or after January 1, 2017, who is a military veteran with a military service-connected disability rated at 30% or more by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be entitled to a leave of absence for illness or injury with pay of up to 12 days for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment for his or her military service-connected disability, as specified.

This bill would expand these requirements to include a classified employee who is a member or military veteran of the California National Guard or reserve component of the federal military returning from a federal military mobilization with a military service-connected disability rated at 30% or more by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that was incurred during the federal active duty recently completed.

Current Location: Assembly Desk

SB 747, as amended, Newman. State military: officer commissions.

Existing law establishes within state government a Military Department headed by an Adjutant General. Existing law includes within the Military Department the office of the Adjutant General, the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, the California Cadet Corps, and the Naval Militia. Existing law prescribes the circumstances under which the commission of an officer under these provisions is vacated, including, but not limited to, when he or she has a permanent change of residence to a place outside of this state.

This bill would delete that circumstance, thereby authorizing the continuation of the commission of an officer when he or she has a permanent change of residence outside of this state. The bill would permit an officer residing outside of the state to transfer to the National Guard of any other state or territory or to a federal military reserve component, as specified. The bill would prohibit the state from granting a transfer if certain provisions apply, including, but not limited to, when the officer is under investigation or mobilized for deployment.

Current Location: Senate Floor

SB 776, as amended, Newman. Corrections: veterans benefits.

Existing law establishes the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and charges it with certain duties and powers, including, among others, the operation of state prisons.

This bill would require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to provide at each state prison an employee, other than a correctional officer or other custodial employee, who is trained and accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs to assist incarcerated veterans in applying for and receiving any federal veterans benefits for which they may be eligible.

Current Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SCR 4, Nguyen. Month of the Military Child.

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

Current Location: Chaptered by Secretary of State. Res. Chapter 32, Statutes of 2017.

SJR 2, as introduced, Nielsen. Veteran bonus repayment.

This measure would request that Congress expedite all actions necessary to permanently waive the requirement that our state's Army National Guard members repay federal financial incentives they received in exchange for wartime reenlistment and extend some form of relief or repayment to those soldiers who have already complied with recoupment orders despite financial hardship.

Current Location: Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

SR 25, Galgiani. Relative to Women's Military History Week.

That the Senate hereby recognizes "Women Warriors" by proclaiming the week of March 13, 2017, to March 19, 2017, inclusive, as Women's Military History Week in California; and be it further resolved, that the Senate encourages Californians to recognize the contributions of women to our military and our freedom, the courageous sacrifices that women have made while serving our country with heroism, and the historic lifting of the ban on women in combat on January 24, 2013.

Current Location: Adopted and enrolled.