



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE'S REPORT: TOP VETERANS BILLS – June 2015

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GOVERNMENTAL ADVOCATES

While I am tracking 78 separate legislative bills for VFW-Department of California, this is a list of the top or most important veterans bills for this year. VFW-Department of CA is a sponsor or supporter of these bills.

VETERANS POST RELATED BILLS

SB 2 - Anderson

TITLE: Property Taxation: Exemptions: Veterans' Organization.

SUMMARY: Provides 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. Provides that the exemption shall not apply to any portion of a property that consists of a bar where alcoholic beverages are served. Reduces property taxes on veterans halls.

STATUS: Passed the Senate.

POSITION: SPONSOR

SB 549 - Hall

TITLE: Charitable Raffles.

SUMMARY: Authorizes a raffle conducted by professional sports team raffles for the purpose of directly supporting specified beneficial or charitable purposes or financially supporting another private, nonprofit, eligible organization that performs those purposes if, among other requirements, each ticket sold contains a unique and matching identifier, 50% of the gross receipts generated from the sale of raffle tickets are used to benefit or provide support for beneficial or charitable purposes.

STATUS: Passed the Senate.

POSITION: Support

SB 685 - McGuire

TITLE: Alcoholic Beverage Service: Veterans' Club License.

SUMMARY: Authorizes a holder of a veterans' club license, to serve members of other Veterans Service Organizations and unaffiliated veterans and active duty and reserve military.

STATUS: Passed the Senate.

POSITION: Support

SUPPORTED BILLS

AB 13 - Chavez

TITLE: Public Postsecondary Education: Nonresident Tuition; Community Colleges.

SUMMARY: Exempts nonresident students living in the State and enrolled at a community college who are defined covered individuals, using Federal GI Bill education benefits to cover the costs associated with enrollment as a community college student, from nonresident tuition. Authorizes community college districts to report students exempted from nonresident tuition for purposes of calculating apportionments to those districts.

STATUS: (currently being heard on Assembly Floor)

POSITION: Support

AB 82 - Garcia

TITLE: Vehicles: Driver's License: Selective Service Registration.

SUMMARY: Requires a person who is required to be registered under the federal Military Selective Service Act and who submits an application for an original driver's license to be deemed to have consented to registration with the federal Selective Service system.

STATUS: Passed the Assembly.

POSITION: Support

AB 171 - Irwin

TITLE: County Veterans Service Officers, Funding.

SUMMARY: Appropriates \$5.6 million from the General Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for allocation to counties to fund activities of county veterans service officers. Makes the \$5.6 million appropriation permanent.

STATUS: Passed the Assembly.

POSITION: Support

AB 253 – Hernandez, Roger

TITLE: Mental Health

SUMMARY: Adds a veteran to the membership of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. Relates to a preference for funding for supporting housing projects for veterans when the applicant can demonstrate a multiyear commitment to helping veterans, of specified funding for the housing project funding plan.

STATUS: Passed the Assembly

POSITION: Support

AB 1029 – Frazier

TITLE: Veterans Service Providers

SUMMARY: Allows entities meeting specified requirements to apply to the Department of Veterans Affairs to become certified veterans service providers. Requires the Department to maintain a list of such providers on its Internet Web site, including the type of supportive services provided. Provides a validity time period for certification. Requires the Department to adopt rules, procedures, and regulations as necessary to decertify an entity that no longer meets certification requirements.

STATUS: Passed the Assembly.

POSITION: Support

AB 1218 - Weber

TITLE: Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise

SUMMARY: Requires a greater participation incentive by a State agency, department, officer, or other State governmental agency be provided to a prime contractor who owns a certain disabled veteran business enterprise. Requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to maintain additional information relating to its promotion efforts. Provides the records maintenance period for information provided by contractors of veteran business subcontractors used. Requires maintenance of advocate attendance at promotional efforts.

STATUS: Passed the Assembly.

POSITION: Support

AB 1275 – Gray

TITLE: **Personal Income Taxes: Military Retirement Pay.**

SUMMARY: Excludes from gross income retirement pay received by a taxpayer 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, and survivor benefits received by a taxpayer from the federal government, as specified.

STATUS: Bill died.

POSITION: Support

SB 386 - Allen

TITLE: **Consumer Affairs, Pensions and Veterans Benefits.**

SUMMARY: Includes as an unlawful practice prohibited under the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, the sale of a financial product or service that is illegal under state or federal law, including a cash payment for the assignment to a third party of the consumer's right to receive future pension or veterans benefits.

STATUS: Passed the Senate.

POSITION: Support

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