

California Association of County Veterans Service Officers
Monday, August 12, 2019

[AB 21](#)

(Obernolte R) Driver's licenses: veteran designation.

Status: 5/16/2019-In committee: Held under submission.

Location: 4/10/2019-A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Current 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. Commencing July 1, 2019, existing law prohibits a fee from being charged for that request if certain criteria are met. This bill would make the payment of a fee by any veteran inoperative no later than July 1, 2020, and repeal the law on January 1, 2021, thereby indefinitely requiring the department to make a veteran designation on a verified applicant's license, without charge. The bill also would make technical and conforming changes.

Position

Support

[AB 55](#)

(Garcia, Eduardo D) Department of Veterans Affairs: veterans' services.

Status: 5/16/2019-In committee: Held under submission.

Location: 4/3/2019-A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to disburse funds, appropriated to the department for the purpose of supporting county veterans service officers pursuant to the annual Budget Act, on a pro rata basis, to counties that have established and maintain a county veterans service officer in accordance with the staffing level and workload of each county veterans service officer under a formula based upon performance developed by the department. This bill would define a workload unit for purposes of these provisions to mean a specific claim activity that is used to allocate subvention funds to counties, which is approved by the department, and performed by county veterans service officers.

Position

Support

[AB 160](#)

(Voepel R) Employment policy: voluntary veterans' preference.

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was JUD. on 5/29/2019) (May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Location: 7/10/2019-S. 2 YEAR

Summary: 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 California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA).

Position

Support

[AB 169](#)

(Lackey R) Guide, signal, and service dogs: injury or death.

Status: 6/24/2019-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 6/24/2019-S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Under current law, it is an infraction or a misdemeanor for a person to permit a dog that is owned, harbored, or controlled by the person to cause injury to, or the death of, a guide, signal, or service dog, as defined, while the guide, signal, or service dog is in discharge of its duties. Current law makes a person who intentionally causes injury to, or the death of, a guide, signal, or service dog, while the dog is in discharge of its duties, guilty of a misdemeanor. This bill would delete, from both crimes, the requirement that the guide, signal, or service dog be in discharge of its duties when the injury or death occurs and would make these crimes applicable to the injury or death of dogs that are enrolled in a training school or program for guide, signal, or service dogs, as specified.

Position

No Position

[AB 230](#)

(Brough R) Disabled veteran business enterprises.

Status: 7/9/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 6. Noes 0.) (July 9). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/9/2019-S. APPR.

Summary: Current law states the intent of the Legislature that every state procurement authority

meet or exceed a DVBE participation goal of a minimum of 3% of total contract value. Current law requires a department awarding a contract to, upon completion of that contract, require the prime contractor that entered into a subcontract with a DVBE to certify specified information to the awarding department, including, among other things, the amount each DVBE received from the prime contractor. This bill would require that information to include proof of payment for work done by the DVBE and the amount and percentage of work the prime contractor committed to provide to one or more DVBEs under the contract.

Position

Support

AB 232 (Cervantes D) Veteran suicides: report and recommendations.

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was HEALTH on 6/19/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Location: 7/10/2019-S. 2 YEAR

Summary: Current law requires the State Department of Public Health to implement an electronic death registration system and to access data within the system to compile a report on veteran suicide in California that includes information on the veterans' ages, sexes, races or ethnicities, and methods of suicide. Current law requires the department to provide that report annually to the Legislature and the Department of Veterans Affairs. This bill would additionally require the report described above to include information on the veterans' locations of residency and death, length and locations of service, branches of service, and occupations and industries or businesses.

Position

Support

AB 290 (Wood D) Health care service plans and health insurance: third-party payments.

Status: 7/10/2019-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/10/2019-S. APPR.

Summary: Would require a health care service plan or an insurer that provides a policy of health insurance to accept payments from specified third-party entities, including an Indian tribe or a local, state, or federal government program. The bill would also require a financially interested entity, as defined, other than those entities, that is making a third-party premium payment to provide that assistance in a specified manner and to perform other related duties, including disclosing to the plan or the insurer the name of the enrollee or insured, as applicable, for each plan or policy on whose behalf a third-party premium payment will be made.

Position

Oppose

AB 408 (Frazier D) Vehicles: disabled veterans.

Status: 5/17/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/8/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Location: 5/17/2019-A. 2 YEAR

Summary: Would require the Department of Motor Vehicles to accept a certificate from a county veterans service officer or the Department of Veterans Affairs that certifies that the applicant for a special license plate or placard is a disabled veteran. The bill would change the definition of "disabled veteran" to instead refer to a veteran who has a combined service-connected disability rating of 100% or is rated permanently and totally disabled based on individual unemployability by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the military service from which the veteran was discharged, due to a diagnosis or diagnoses that substantially impair or interfere with mobility.

Position

Support/Sponsor

AB 427 (Brough R) Personal income taxes: exclusion: uniformed services: retirement pay.

Status: 5/16/2019-Joint Rule 62(a), file notice suspended. In committee: Held under submission.

Location: 5/15/2019-A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2030, exclude from gross income specified amounts of retirement pay received by a taxpayer from the federal government for service performed in the uniformed services, as defined, during the taxable year.

Position

Support

AB 550 (Flora R) Veterans: Medical Foster Home Pilot Program.

Status: 6/26/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 6. Noes 0.) (June 25). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 6/26/2019-S. APPR.

Summary: Would establish the Medical Foster Home Pilot Program until January 1, 2023, under which

a United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) facility may establish a medical foster home that is not subject to licensure or regulation as a residential care facility for the elderly, a community care facility, or a residential care facility for persons with chronic, life-threatening illness, pursuant to specified federal requirements.

Position

Support

[AB 558](#) (Petrie-Norris D) State Bar of California: service members: legal services.

Status: 7/10/2019-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 7/10/2019-S. THIRD READING

Summary: Would require the State Bar to engage with military service providers, along with the other legal aid organizations, veteran service providers, and volunteer attorneys as specified, to provide legal services to veterans and service members and their families who otherwise cannot afford legal services, and collaborate to improve access to and delivery of these services throughout the state. The bill would revise these provisions to include legislative findings on, among other things, the difficulty of veterans, service members, and their families in securing civil legal assistance.

Position

Support

[AB 581](#) (Levine D) Sentencing: members of military: trauma.

Status: 7/8/2019-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 7/8/2019-S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Current law requires a 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 the defendant's military service, to consider that circumstance as a factor in mitigation when imposing a sentence. Current law allows a defendant who is currently serving a felony sentence and meets these criteria to petition for resentencing if those criteria were not considered at the time of sentencing and the person was sentenced prior to January 1, 2015. This bill would allow a defendant meeting these criteria to petition for recall of sentence and resentencing without regard to whether the defendant was sentenced prior to January 1, 2015.

Position

Support

[AB 634](#) (Salas D) Traffic control devices: roundabouts: memorial and dedication signs.

Status: 7/12/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 95, Statutes of 2019.

Location: 7/12/2019-A. CHAPTERED

Summary: Current law provides that the Department of Transportation has full possession and control of all state highways and associated property. The California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices provides for 5 types of highway facilities that may be used for memorial or dedication signing, including, among other things, freeways and highways. This bill would require that roundabouts be added as a type of highway facility that may be used for memorial or dedication signing.

Position

Support

[AB 1257](#) (Salas D) Sales and use taxes: exemption: vehicle modifications: physically handicapped persons: veterans.

Status: 7/8/2019-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 7/8/2019-S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Current law exempts from sales and use taxes, in the case of a sale of a modified vehicle for physically handicapped persons to a disabled person who is eligible to be issued a distinguishing license plate or placard for parking purposes, the gross receipts attributable to that portion of the vehicle that has been so modified. Current regulations implementing those provisions provide that physically handicapped persons include disabled persons, as specified, which existing law defines as, among others, persons with a diagnosed disease or disorder which substantially impairs or interferes with mobility. Current federal law provides various benefits to disabled veterans, including assistance with the purchase of an automobile and adaptive equipment. This bill, on and after July 1, 2020, and before July 1, 2030, would specify that, for purposes of the exemptions described above, physically handicapped persons include eligible persons with a severe burn injury, as those terms are defined in existing federal law.

Position

Support

[AB 1258](#) (Salas D) Personal income taxes: exclusion: servicemembers.

Status: 4/22/2019-Re-referred to Com. on REV. & TAX.

Location: 3/11/2019-A. REV. & TAX

Summary: Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2030, would exclude from gross income active duty pay received by a servicemember while on active duty in this state and military retirement pay received during the applicable time period, as defined, after being honorably discharged.

Position
Support

[AB 1343](#) (Eggman D) Private postsecondary education: California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009.

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was B., P. & E.D. on 5/29/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Location: 7/10/2019-S. 2 YEAR

Summary: Would, beginning January 1, 2023, prohibit a private postsecondary educational institution from enrolling residents of California not already enrolled as of that date, unless the institution meets either the requirement that no more than 85% of the institution's tuition revenue, determined as specified, is derived from student financial aid provided by a federal agency, or not less than 50% of the institution's tuition revenue is dedicated to a combination of student instruction and student support, as defined in regulations adopted by the bureau no later than July 1, 2022, as specified.

Position
Support

[AB 1376](#) (Ramos D) Civil service: veterans' preference: background checks.

Status: 6/26/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 5. Noes 0.) (June 26). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 6/26/2019-S. APPR.

Summary: Would amend veterans' preference provisions to require the Department of Human Resources to collaborate with specified state entities to establish a veterans' preference to be applied to employment opportunities within the field of cybersecurity that require a background check. The bill would require a state agency, as defined, that hires for a position in cybersecurity that requires a background check to apply the veterans' preference and to establish a uniform hiring policy for veterans who have held a security clearance in the last year and have left the military in good standing or were honorably discharged. The bill would request the Regents of the University of California to enact for the University of California veterans' preference provisions that are equivalent to the veterans' preference provisions added by the bill.

Position
Support

[AB 1588](#) (Gloria D) Drinking water and wastewater operator certification programs.

Status: 7/9/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 6. Noes 0.) (July 9). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/9/2019-S. APPR.

Summary: Current law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to issue a water treatment operator certificate and water distribution operator certificate by reciprocity to any person holding a valid, unexpired, comparable certification issued by another state, the United States, prescribed territories or tribal governments, or a unit of any of these. Current law requires the board to classify types of wastewater treatment plants for the purpose of determining the levels of competence necessary to operate them. This bill would require the board to evaluate opportunities to issue a water treatment operator certificate or water distribution operator certificate by reciprocity, or a wastewater certificate by examination waiver, to persons who performed duties comparable to those duties while serving in the United States military, as specified.

Position
Support

[AB 1808](#) (Cervantes D) Public contracts: goods and services: installation of carpet, resilient flooring, and synthetic turf.

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 6/19/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Location: 7/10/2019-S. 2 YEAR

Summary: Current law establishes procedures for state agencies to enter into contracts for goods and services, including generally requiring that certain contracts by a state agency be approved by the Department of General Services. Current law authorizes the department to consolidate the needs of multiple state agencies for goods, information technology, and services and establish agreements that leverage the state's buying power, as specified, for certain acquisitions. Current law authorizes state and local agencies to contract with suppliers awarded those contracts without further competitive bidding. This bill, notwithstanding any other law requiring bidding on public works contracts, would

authorize a state or local agency to use the above-described procedures for the purchase, or purchase and installation, of carpet, resilient flooring, or synthetic turf if the installation work is not performed in connection with new construction and the contractor complies with specified requirements relating to wages and labor.

Position

Watch

Notes 1: Bill was amended to no longer deal with veterans issues.

ACR 37

(Garcia, Eduardo D) Marine Corporal Erik H. Silva Memorial Bridge.

Status: 7/11/2019-Chaptered by Secretary of State- Chapter 121, Statutes of 2019

Location: 7/11/2019-A. CHAPTERED

Summary: This measure would designate the Alamo River Bridge on the Evan Hewes Highway (State Route 115) at the entry to the City of Holtville, California, as the Marine Corporal Erik H. Silva Memorial Bridge. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Position

Support

SB 222

(Hill D) Discrimination: veteran or military status.

Status: 7/2/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 11. Noes 0.) (July 2). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/2/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: Would state findings and declarations of the Legislature regarding the importance of housing for veterans and its priority, and declare that housing discrimination on the basis of veteran or military status is against public policy.

Position

Support

SB 245

(Chang R) Public animal shelters: adoptions: veterans.

Status: 7/11/2019-Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Location: 7/11/2019-S. CONCURRENCE

Summary: Would prohibit a public animal shelter from charging an adoption fee for a dog or cat if the person adopting the dog or cat presents to the public animal shelter a current and valid driver's license or identification card with the word "VETERAN" printed on its face pursuant to the above-described provision. The bill also would authorize a public animal shelter to limit the number of dogs and cats adopted from that public animal shelter by an eligible veteran to one dog and cat each 6-month period.

Position

Support

SB 289

(Archuleta D) Medi-Cal: home- and community-based services: military.

Status: 7/10/2019-Coauthors revised. From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 10. Noes 0.) (July 9). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/10/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: Current federal law provides for various home- and community-based services (HCBS), as part of a waiver or a state plan amendment under the Medicaid program, to promote coverage and services that enable an individual who would otherwise be institutionalized to live at home or in the community. This bill would require the retention of eligibility for, reenrollment in, or restoration of existing status on the waiting list of, specified HCBS waiver programs for an individual who is a dependent child or spouse of an active duty military service member and who transfers to another state with the military service member on official military orders, if the individual subsequently returns to and establishes residence in this state, continues to be otherwise eligible for the waiver program, and submits a certain request, as applicable.

Position

Support

SB 312

(Leyva D) Veterans: service dog assistance.

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was V. A. on 6/6/2019) (May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Location: 7/10/2019-A. 2 YEAR

Summary: Would require the Department of Veterans Affairs, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to establish a competitive grant program to provide assistance for the cost of service dogs to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder. The bill would award grants to certified veteran service dog providers, as defined, that provide services including, among other things, the purchase of the dog, training of the dog, and equipment for the dog. The bill would additionally require the Department of

Veterans Affairs to publicize the program, as specified. The bill would require the department to, on and after December 1, 2021, accept and either approve or reject applications to certify veteran service dog providers.

Position
Support

SB 500 **(Morrell R) Veterans: education.**

Status: 6/20/2019-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 6/20/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish an education assistance program to provide housing and tuition assistance to disabled veterans attending graduate school in the State of California if their eligibility for federal education assistance has expired. The bill would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, require the department to provide tuition assistance and a housing allowance to disabled veterans while they attend specified graduate schools in the State of California, as specified.

Position
Support

SB 534 **(Bradford D) Insurers: minority, women, LGBT, veteran, and disabled veteran business enterprises.**

Status: 7/10/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 12. Noes 0.) (July 10). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/10/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: Current law requires each admitted insurer with premiums written equal to or in excess of \$100,000,000 to provide information to the Insurance Commissioner on all of its community development investments and community development infrastructure investments in California. This bill would require those insurers to also report to the commissioner on their minority, women, LGBT, veteran, and disabled veteran-owned business procurement efforts, as specified. Under the bill, a failure to report the information by the reporting deadline would subject the admitted insurer to civil penalties to be fixed and enforced by the commissioner, as provided.

Position
Support

SB 562 **(Morrell R) Property taxation: exemption: principal residence: veterans and their unmarried surviving spouses.**

Status: 6/19/2019-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on REV. & TAX.

Location: 6/6/2019-A. REV. & TAX

Summary: Current property tax law, pursuant to the authorization of the California Constitution, provides a disabled veteran's property tax exemption for the principal place of residence of a veteran, the veteran's spouse, or the veteran and veteran's spouse jointly, and the unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran, as provided, if the veteran is blind in both eyes, has lost the use of 2 or more limbs, or is totally disabled as a result of injury or disease incurred in military service, or if the veteran has, as a result of a service-connected injury or disease, died while on active duty in military service. This bill, for the 2020-21 fiscal year to the 2029-30 fiscal year, inclusive, would increase these exemption amounts to \$200,000, or \$250,000 if the household income of the claimant does not exceed \$65,000, as adjusted for inflation.

Position
Support

SB 588 **(Archuleta D) Public contracts: Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program.**

Status: 7/11/2019-From committee: Do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 9).

Location: 7/9/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: Would require the uniform process for state contracting under the DVBE program developed by the Director of General Services to require that a DVBE incentive is provided for all state agency contracts, even when the DVBE participation goal has been waived. The bill would additionally, until January 1, 2025, require an awarding department to give a prime contractor that fails to comply with the certification requirements, as specified, reasonable opportunity to cure the failure. The bill would, until January 1, 2025, require the awarding department to provide notice of the failure to the Department of General Services, if, after being provided with a reasonable opportunity, the prime contractor continues to fail to comply with the certification requirements.

Position
Support

SB 663 **(Jones R) Property taxation: exemptions: veterans' organizations.**

Status: 7/10/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 10. Noes 0.) (July 9).
Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/10/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: Current 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.

Position

Support

SB 725 **(Rubio D) Veterans rental housing.**

Status: 6/18/2019-June 18 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author.

Location: 6/6/2019-A. V. A.

Summary: Current law creates the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Act of 2014, to provide for the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable multifamily supportive housing, affordable transitional housing, affordable rental housing, or related facilities for veterans and their families to allow veterans to access and maintain housing stability. This bill would require the department to establish a rental housing assistance program to provide financial assistance to veterans seeking rental housing, based on the needs of the veterans.

Position

Support

SJR 7 **(Glazer D) Military and veterans.**

Status: 6/24/2019-Chaptered by Secretary of State- Chapter 102, Statutes of 2019

Location: 6/24/2019-S. CHAPTERED

Summary: This measure would urge the United States Congress to act favorably in regard to legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Merrill's Marauders.

Position

Support

SR 50 **(McGuire D) Relative to Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day.**

Status: 6/27/2019-Read. Adopted. (Ayes 37. Noes 0.)

Location: 6/27/2019-S. ADOPTED

Summary: This measure would resolve that the Senate pause in its deliberations to proclaim June 27, 2019, as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day in the state, fully confident that such procedure mirrors our shared commitment to preserve, to ensure, and to yet effect that patrimony of freedom which is our American heritage.

Position

Support

Total Measures: 32

Total Tracking Forms: 32