



# IMPORTANT VETERANS LEGISLATION

## 2016 AMVETS STATE CONVENTION

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### ACTIVE LEGISLATION

#### **AB 1383: Jones**

**TITLE:** Veterans Preferences: Voluntary Policy

**SUMMARY:** Enacts the Voluntary Veterans' Preference Employment Policy. Authorizes a private employer to establish and maintain a written veterans' preference employment policy, to be applied uniformly in employment decisions, to be used to hire or retain a veteran over another qualified applicant or employee. Removes references to discrimination on account of sex and to Vietnam-era veterans. Provides nothing in existing law relating to discrimination affects the right to use veteran status as a hiring factor.

**STATUS:** Senate Committee on Judiciary

**POSITION:** Support

#### **AB 1672: Mathis**

**TITLE:** Veterans Treatment Courts: Judicial Council Survey

**SUMMARY:** Requires the Judicial Council to assess, on a statewide basis, veterans treatment courts currently in operation, survey counties that do not operate veterans treatment courts to identify barriers to program implementation, and assess the need to establish veterans courts in those counties if funds are received for the assessment and survey. Requires a report on the results of the study to the Legislature.

**STATUS:** Senate Committee on Public Safety

**POSITION:** Support

#### **AB 1706: Chávez**

**TITLE:** Stolen Valor

**SUMMARY:** Requires specified elected officers to forfeit office upon the conviction of a crime pursuant to the federal Stolen Valor Act of 2013 or the Stolen Valor Act that involves a fraudulent claim, made with the intent to obtain money, property, or other tangible benefit that the person is a veteran or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, as prescribed in those acts. Imposes a misdemeanor for such actions.

**STATUS:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

#### **AB 2128: Achadjian**

**TITLE:** Marriage

**SUMMARY:** Amends existing law that allows a member of the Armed Force of the United States who is stationed overseas and serving in a conflict or a war and is unable to appear for the license and solemnization of the marriage to enter into that marriage by the appearance of an attorney in fact. Removes the requirement that the member of the Armed Forces of the United States being serving in a conflict or war.

**STATUS:** Senate Floor

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

#### **SB 112: Roth**

**TITLE:** State Veterans' Bill of Rights

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

**STATUS:** Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs

**POSITION:** Support

**SB 980: Nielsen**

**TITLE:** Cal Vet Veteran Homes Code Update

**SUMMARY:** Provides that the administrator is the senior executive appointed to oversee the operations of a veterans home. Specifies which veterans homes are administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to adopt uniform statewide policies and procedures, for the operations of those veterans homes. Requires a quality of care assessment team. Requires a electronic medical records system for such homes. Relates to the setting of related fees.

**STATUS:** Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

**SB 1012: Nguyen**

**TITLE:** U.S. Flags; purchase

**SUMMARY:** Requires any Flag of the United State or the Flag of the State purchased by the state or any local government agency be made in the United State from articles, materials, or supplies that were grown, produced, and manufactured in the United States.

**STATUS:** Assembly Committee on Accountability and Administrative Review

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

**SB 1458: Bates**

**TITLE:** Property Taxation: Exemptions: Disabled Veterans

**SUMMARY:** Amends an existing property tax law which provides a disabled veteran's property tax exemption for the principal place of residence of a veteran or a veteran's spouse. Expands that definition of veteran to include a person who has been discharged in other than dishonorable conditions from service under certain conditions and who has been determined to be eligible for federal veterans' health and medical benefits.

**STATUS:** Assembly Committee on Revenue & Taxation

**POSITION:** Support

**SR 69: Glazer**

**TITLE:** Port Chicago Disaster

**SUMMARY:** Urges the President and the Congress to take action all necessary action to restore honor to, and rectify the mistreatment by the U.S. Military of, any sailors who were unjustly blamed for and convicted of mutiny after the Port Chicago disaster, which occurred in the town of Port Chicago, California, in 1944.

**STATUS:** Senate Floor

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

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**LEGISLATION THAT FAILED PASSAGE**

**AB 1556: Mathis**

**TITLE:** Property Taxation: Exemptions: Disabled Veterans

**SUMMARY:** Exempts the full value of the principal place of residence of a veterans spouse. Defines the term blind in both eyes. Specifies that a totally disabled veteran includes a veteran so severely disabled as to be unable to move without an assisted device.

**STATUS:** Died in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**POSITION:** Support

**AB 1596: Mathis**

**TITLE:** Veteran Service Organizations

**SUMMARY:** Appropriates funds from the General Fund each fiscal year to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of grants to veterans service organizations. Requires the Department to establish criteria, regulations, and reporting requirements for any organization it contracts with pursuant to these provisions. Requires a veteran service organization that contracts with the state to have a presence in the state and be registered with both the Secretary of State and Attorney General.

**STATUS:** Died in Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

**AB 2512: Grove**

**TITLE:** Task Force on Women Veterans Health

**SUMMARY:** Creates the Task Force on Women Veterans Health Care to study the health care needs of women veterans in the State

**STATUS:** Died in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

**AB 2879: Stone**

**TITLE:** Service Member Employment Protection Act

**SUMMARY:** Amends existing law that prohibits discrimination against a member of the military forces because of his or her membership or service. Prohibits a person from requiring a waiver of the protections afforded under specified provisions of existing law as a condition of employment, including the right to file and pursue a civil action or complaint. Requires any waiver of these protection to be knowing and voluntary, in writing, and expressly not made as a condition of employment.

**STATUS:** Moved to Assembly Inactive File

**POSITION:** Support if Amended

**SB 951: McGuire**

**TITLE:** Golden State Patriot Passes Program

**SUMMARY:** Appropriates funding annually from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the Golden State Patriot Passes Program that would provide veterans with free access to transit services. Requires the development of related program guidelines that describe the methodologies that a participating transit operator would use to demonstrate that proposed expenditures would reduce greenhouse gas emission, increase veteran mobility, and fulfill specified requirements. Requires the selection of operators to participate.

**STATUS:** Died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations

**POSITION:** SPONSOR

**SB 1080: Morrell**

**TITLE:** Memorials

**SUMMARY:** Makes it a crime to receive a grave marker or other structure designed to commemorate the grave of a veteran, peace officer, firefighter, or other first responder that the person knows, or reasonably should know, is stolen.

**STATUS:** Died in the Senate Committee on Public Safety

**POSITION:** Support

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THE LANGUAGE, STATUS, ANALYSES, AND VOTES ON ALL CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION CAN BE ACCESSED AT:

[HTTPS://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV/](https://leginfo.ca.gov/)

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