

**CALIFORNIA STATE COMMANDERS VETERANS COUNCIL**  
**2020 END OF YEAR CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

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The 2019-20 California Legislative Session has ended. September 30 was the last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills sent to him when the Legislature adjourned on August 31. This is a report on the legislation your organization took official positions on during 2020.

**The election and new legislative session:**

The Presidential General Election will be on November 3. Based on the results of that election, newly elected legislators will be sworn in on December 7. All of the Legislature's 80 Assembly seats will be on the ballot as well as 20 of the State Senate's 40 seats. Many current legislators will fend off challenges and retain their seats, some will lose their seats to a challenger, and some are termed out. On December 7, the 2021-22 Legislature will be sworn in, after which they will return to their districts. The legislative session will begin in earnest in January. On January 1, bills that were recently signed in to law this month take effect (unless they were urgency bills, which take effect immediately).

National events and the economy could shape a lot of what the Legislature could focus on in 2021-22. Also, in January, new committee assignments will be made, so we will see who gets on to the Veterans Committees as well as the influential Appropriations Committees.

We will be working with the Council to develop the legislative priorities for 2021. We would like to thank the legislative representatives of the Council's member organizations for the great working relationship we had with them during this challenging year. We were still able to review and take positions on legislation important to veterans, their families, and the military.

**Going forward:**

The COVID-19 pandemic severely curtailed the legislative activity this year. Many good (and bad) bills were shelved to clear the decks to address legislation relating to the pandemic. Since a

lot of the legwork was done putting the bills together in early 2020, there is a good chance a lot of those bill ideas will come back in 2021.

### **Barstow Veterans Home:**

The State budget that was passed in June provided a process that must be followed by CalVet in determining the fate of the Barstow Veterans Home. Part of the process called for stakeholder input. There was a CalVet stakeholder call last month which we monitored on behalf of our clients. CalVet will release the findings of the community input in early 2021.

### **More info on legislation text, analyses, votes, etc. at:**

For more information on these bills such as the language, amendments, votes, history, and committee analyses, go to:

<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml>

### **Legislation the CSCVC took positions on in 2020:**

- Some bills began in 2019 and became 2-year bills.
- “Failed Deadline” status means the bill died because it did not move through the process by the legislative deadlines. This year, it was mostly because legislators were asked to shelve their bills that did not address the pandemic crisis.
- “Approved by the Governor” status means that the bill has been signed in to law and will take effect January 1 unless stated otherwise in the bill’s language.
- “Vetoed” status means the Governor did not sign the bill and it will not become law.
- “Chapters by the Secretary of State” status means that a Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) or Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) was passed by the Legislature and sent directly to the Secretary of State for official posting. The Governor’s signature is not required on SCR’s and ACR’s.

### **AB 160** (Voepel R) Employment policy: voluntary veterans’ preference.

**Status:** 8/18/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was JUD. on 5/29/2019)

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

**Status:** 8/18/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was HEALTH on 6/19/2019)

**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 240** (**Irwin** D) **Veterans' homes: lease of property.**

**Status:** 9/11/2020-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 61, Statutes of 2020.

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Veterans' Home of California system for the operation of veterans' homes at various sites. Current law sets forth the duties of the Department of Veterans Affairs regarding the administration and regulation of veterans' homes. Current law authorizes the Director of General Services to lease or let any real property held by the department for a home, as specified, to any entity or person upon terms and conditions determined to be in the best interests of the home. This bill would prohibit a lease or let from exceeding 5 years, unless the lessee is a local government or a nonprofit organization that provides services exclusively for veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States and their families, or the contract for the lease was executed before January 1, 2021.

Position  
Support

**AB 345** (**Muratsuchi** D) **Natural resources: environmental justice: oil and gas: regulation of operations.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. N.R. & W. on 8/5/2020)

**Summary:** Would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to create an environmental justice program within the agency to identify and address any gaps in existing programs, policies, or activities that may impede the achievement of environmental justice. The bill, contingent upon funding for this purpose, would require the secretary to establish a grant-based reimbursement program to enable environmental justice and community groups to meaningfully participate in rulemaking and other regulatory processes at departments and entities within the agency. The bill would define environmental justice for these purposes.

Position  
Oppose

**AB 408** (**Frazier** D) **Vehicles: disabled veterans.**

**Status:** 9/9/2020-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 42, Statutes of 2020.

**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.

Position  
Support

**AB 694** **(Irwin D) Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act of 2022.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. APPR. on 6/11/2020)

**Summary:** Would enact the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act of 2022 to authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount not to exceed \$600,000,000 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.

Position  
Support

**AB 1258** **(Salas D) Personal income taxes: exclusion: servicemembers.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. DEAD on 1/31/2020)

**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 1376** **(Ramos D) Civil service: veterans' preference: background checks.**

**Status:** 8/21/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(15). (Last location was S. 2 YEAR on 8/30/2019)

**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:** 10/11/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 760, Statutes of 2019.

**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 1809 (Cervantes D) Disabled veteran business enterprises.**

**Status:** 8/21/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(15). (Last location was S. 2 YEAR on 8/30/2019)

**Summary:** Commencing March 1, 2020, and until March 1, 2024, would authorize a state agency to award a contract for services or information technology that has an estimated value of between \$5,000 and \$500,000 to a certified small business, including a microbusiness, or to a DVBE, as long as the agency obtains price quotations from 2 or more certified small businesses or 2 or more DVBEs. The bill would specify that a certified small business or DVBE that utilizes this process as an alternative to the competitive bidding requirements may not also receive the small business preference or the DVBE participation incentive, as specified.

Position  
Support

**AB 1935 (Voepel R) Veterans: mental health.**

**Status:** 8/18/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was S. V. A. on 7/1/2020)

**Summary:** Would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, an academic study of mental health among women veterans in California, as specified. The bill would require the department to submit a report summarizing the findings and recommendations of the study to the Legislature no later than July 31, 2022.

Position  
Support

**AB 2046 (Voepel R) Family law: child support.**

**Status:** 9/28/2020-Vetoed by Governor.

**Summary:** Current law provides that if the person who is required to pay child support is disabled, meets certain federal eligibility requirements, and is receiving or would be eligible for certain state and federal disability payments, and the person has supplied the local child support agency with proof of eligibility or receipt of these benefits, then the order/notice to withhold income issued for the liquidation of the arrearage shall not exceed 5% of that person's total monthly disability payments, as specified. This bill would similarly prohibit the order/notice to withhold income for the liquidation of the arrearage from exceeding 5% of a person's total monthly disability compensation if the person who is required to pay child support is a disabled veteran receiving disability compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs who meets specified income requirements and has supplied the local child support agency with proof of receipt of disability compensation and other income and assets.

Position  
Support

**AB 2192 (Committee on Veterans Affairs) Governor's Military Council.**

**Status:** 9/11/2020-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 74, Statutes of 2020.

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Governor's Military Council that advises the Governor on efforts to retain military installations and operations within the state. Members of the council are appointed by the Governor and include bipartisan representatives from both houses of the Legislature, as specified. Current law repeals the law establishing the council on January 1, 2021. This bill would extend that repeal date to January 1, 2026.

Position  
Support

**AB 2380 (Choi R) Income taxation: exclusion: military survivor benefits.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. REV. & TAX on 2/27/2020)

**Summary:** Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, provide an exclusion from gross income for all survivor benefits or payments received on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, under the federal Survivor Benefit Plan. The bill would require the Franchise Tax Board to submit a report to the Legislature on the income brackets of taxpayers who claimed this exclusion, and would provide findings and declarations relating to the goals, purposes, and objectives of this exclusion.

Position  
Support

**AB 2494 (Choi R) Postsecondary education: course credit for prior military education, training, and service.**

**Status:** 8/18/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was S. ED. on 6/23/2020)

**Summary:** Would require the Office of the Chancellor of the California State University, in collaboration with the Academic Senate of the California State University, and request the

University of California, to develop, by September 1, 2021, a consistent policy to award military personnel and veterans who have an official Joint Services Transcript course credit similar to the policy developed by the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges under existing law. The bill would also require that each campus of the California State University, and request that the University of California, have, by December 31, 2022, a policy consistent with the respective policies developed by the Office of the Chancellor of the California State University and the University of California and post on its internet website the most recent policy adopted pursuant to the bill.

Position  
Support

**AB 2549 (Salas D) Department of Consumer Affairs: temporary licenses.**

**Status:** 8/18/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was S. B., P. & E.D. on 7/1/2020)

**Summary:** Current law requires a board within the Department of Consumer Affairs to issue, after appropriate investigation, certain types of temporary licenses to an applicant if the applicant meets specified requirements, including that the applicant supplies evidence satisfactory to the board 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 the applicant holds a current, active, and unrestricted license that confers upon the applicant the authority to practice, in another state, district, or territory of the United States, the profession or vocation for which the applicant seeks a temporary license from the board. Current law authorizes a board to adopt regulations necessary to administer these provisions. This bill would expand that requirement to issue temporary licenses to include licenses issued by the Veterinary Medical Board, the Dental Board of California, the Dental Hygiene Board of California, the California State Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology, the Board of Psychology, the California Board of Occupational Therapy, the Physical Therapy Board of California, and the California Board of Accountancy.

Position  
Support

**AB 2613 (Obernolte R) Driver's licenses: veteran designation.**

**Status:** 5/29/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/2/2020)

**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. Current law prohibits a fee from being charged for that 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 their status as a homeless person, in accordance with specified provisions. This bill would make the payment of a fee by any veteran inoperative no later than July 1, 2021, and repeal the law on January 1, 2022, thereby indefinitely requiring the department to make a veteran designation on a verified applicant's license, without charge.



Position  
Support

**AB 2688 (Cervantes D) Veterans: veterans service officers.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. V. A. on 3/2/2020)

**Summary:** Would appropriate \$11,000,000 on July 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, from the General Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for allocation to counties for county veterans service officers based upon a workload unit performance formula to be developed by the department. This bill would also require the department to develop performance metrics to demonstrate the effective use of appropriated funds. Finally, this bill would require the department to submit the annual report of county veterans service officer activities by November 15 of each year, and to include the new performance metrics within the report.

Position  
Support

**AB 2918 (Salas D) Suicide prevention: military.**

**Status:** 5/29/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was HEALTH on 3/12/2020)

**Summary:** Would direct the State Department of Public Health to establish an Ending Military Suicide Task Force to systematically reduce military suicides and to develop a plan to eliminate all military suicides in the state, as specified.

Position  
Support

**AB 3045 (Gray D) Department of Consumer Affairs: boards: veterans: military spouses: licenses.**

**Status:** 8/18/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was S. B., P. & E.D. on 7/1/2020)

**Summary:** Current law requires a board within the Department of Consumer Affairs to issue, after appropriate investigation, certain types of temporary licenses to an applicant if the applicant meets specified requirements, including that the applicant supplies evidence satisfactory to the board 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 the applicant holds a current, active, and unrestricted license that confers upon the applicant the authority to practice, in another state, district, or territory of the United States, the profession or vocation for which the applicant seeks a temporary license from the board. This bill would require boards not subject to the temporary licensing provisions described above to issue licenses to an applicant if the applicant meets specified requirements, including that the applicant supplies evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is an honorably discharged veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or 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, as provided.



Position  
Support

**AB 3137 (Voepel R) Community colleges: California College Promise: members of the Armed Forces of the United States.**

**Status:** 9/28/2020-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 226, Statutes of 2020.

**Summary:** Would require that a student who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined, and is called to duty as specified, may withdraw from participation in the California College Promise and resume participation in the program upon the student's return from duty without losing eligibility for the fee waiver or any other benefit of the program. The bill would also provide that the time during which the student was obliged to withdraw because of active duty shall not count toward the limit of the period of that student's eligibility for participation in the California College Promise.

Position  
Support

**AB 3300 (Santiago D) Homelessness: California Access to Housing and Services Act.**

**Status:** 8/18/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was S. HOUSING on 7/1/2020)

**Summary:** By executive order, the Governor required the Department of Finance to establish the California Access to Housing and Services Fund, administered by the State Department of Social Services, to provide funding for additional affordable housing units, providing rental and operating subsidies, and stabilizing board and care homes. This bill, the California Access to Housing and Services Act, would establish the California Access to Housing and Services Fund in the State Treasury and continuously appropriate moneys in the fund solely for the purpose of implementing and administering the bill's provisions.

Position  
Support if  
Amended

**AB 3371 (Committee on Veterans Affairs) Veteran suicides: report.**

**Status:** 9/11/2020-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 77, Statutes of 2020.

**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 require that report to include information on the counties of residence of the veterans, and would authorize the report to include additional information.

Position  
Support

[ACA 9](#)

**(Voepel R) Veterans Support Stabilization Account.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. PRINT on 2/19/2019)

**Summary:** Would create the Veterans Support Stabilization Account in the General Fund, and require the annual budget to allocate 0.5% of the funding allocated for the purpose of services for veterans to be allocated to the Veterans Support Stabilization Account. The measure would prohibit funds transferred to the Veterans Support Stabilization Account from being appropriated unless the Governor issues a proclamation declaring a budget emergency and the funds are used to provide for the support of services for veterans.

Position  
Support

[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

**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:** 10/8/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 601, Statutes of 2019.

**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. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position  
Support

[SB 245](#)

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

**Status:** 8/30/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 205, Statutes of 2019.

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

**Status:** 8/21/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(15). (Last location was A. 2 YEAR on 8/30/2019)

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

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. REV. & TAX on 6/6/2019)

**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:** 9/11/2020-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 80, Statutes of 2020.

**Summary:** Under current law, the Department of General Services, except in the case of contracts for professional bond services, is the administering agency of the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program, which requires state agencies and all other state entities contracting for materials, supplies, equipment, alteration, repair, or improvement to have at least 3% participation goals for disabled veteran business enterprises (DVBEs), as defined. Current 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, on a contract entered into on

or after January 1 2021, to withhold \$10,000, or the full payment if it is less than \$10,000, from the final payment on a contract until that certification is received by the awarding department.

Position  
Support

**SB 644** **(Glazer D) Tenancy: security deposit: service members.**

**Status:** 10/8/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 602, Statutes of 2019.

**Summary:** Current law regulates the terms and conditions of residential tenancies, and prohibits a landlord from demanding or receiving security for a rental agreement for residential property, however denominated, in an amount or value in excess of an amount equal to 2 months' rent, in the case of unfurnished residential property, and an amount equal to 3 months' rent, in the case of furnished residential property, in addition to any rent for the first month paid on or before initial occupancy. This bill, notwithstanding that provision and as specified, would prohibit a landlord from demanding or receiving security from a service member who rents residential property in which the service member will reside in an amount or value in excess of an amount equal to one months' rent, in the case of unfurnished residential property, or in excess of an amount equal to 2 months' rent, in the case of furnished residential property, as specified.

Position  
Support

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

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/14/2019)

**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:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. V. A. on 6/6/2019)

**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

**SB 907 (Archuleta D) Child abuse or neglect investigation: military notification.**

**Status:** 9/28/2020-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 233, Statutes of 2020.

**Summary:** Would require a county child welfare department investigating a case of child abuse or neglect to determine if the parent or guardian is an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States. The bill would authorize the county child welfare department to develop and adopt memoranda of understanding with military installations that would govern the investigation of allegations of child abuse or neglect against active duty service members, as specified. The bill would specify that these provisions do not limit or change the responsibilities of a county child welfare department with respect to investigations of, or responses to, allegations of abuse or neglect.

Position  
Support

**SB 1007 (Hueso D) Personal income taxes: exclusion: uniformed services: retirement pay.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. GOV. & F. on 5/12/2020)

**Summary:** The Personal Income Tax Law imposes a tax on individual taxpayers measured by the taxpayer's taxable income for the taxable year, but excludes certain items of income from the computation of tax, including an exclusion for combat-related special compensation. This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021, and before January 1, 2031, would exclude from gross income 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

**SB 1018 (Chang R) Veterans: Governor's Memorial Certificate.**

**Status:** 5/29/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was V. A. on 2/27/2020)

**Summary:** Would require the Department of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Governor, to establish a Governor's Memorial Certificate Program to honor the memory of deceased veterans. The bill would require the program to send a Governor's Memorial Certificate to the survivors of any deceased veteran eligible for burial in a national or state veterans' cemetery, and would require that certificate to be accompanied by information directing survivors to county veteran service offices.

Position  
Support

**SB 1071 (Wilk R) Personal income taxes: exclusion: uniformed services: retirement pay.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. GOV. & F. on 5/12/2020)

**Summary:** Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021, and before January 1, 2031, 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

**SB 1177** (**Jones R**) **Veterans' Home of California system.**

**Status:** 8/14/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was A. V. A. on 6/18/2020)

**Summary:** Would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to promulgate regulations that define the types of short-term uses of Veterans' home property that are in the best interests of the homes, including the residents. The bill would prohibit the department from approving short-term use agreements that do not meet that definition. The bill would require all short-term use agreements to include conditions that protect the state's best interests. Finally, the bill would also require the department to develop and implement a fee schedule for short-term third-party uses of veterans' home property.

Position  
Support

**SB 1324** (**Allen D**) **Professional licenses.**

**Status:** 5/29/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was B., P. & E.D. on 5/12/2020)

**Summary:** Would require the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, the Department of Real Estate, and the State Department of Public Health to each place a prominently displayed military licensure icon or hyperlink on the home page of its internet website that is linked to information about each occupational board or program for licensure or certification that it administers along with additional information relating to the professional licensure of veterans, service members, and their spouses, as specified. The bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to have a prominently displayed military licensure icon or hyperlink at an appropriate location on its internet website that links to those websites. The bill would require an annual report to the Legislature based on information collected to satisfy this requirement.

Position  
Support

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

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

**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

**SJR 9**

**(Archuleta D) Military and veterans.**

**Status:** 8/31/2020-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. V. A. on 6/19/2019)

**Summary:** This measure would urge the United States Congress to act favorably in regard to legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 201st Fighter Squadron of the Mexican Expeditionary Air Force.

Position

Support/Sponsor