

PETE CONATY & ASSOCIATES
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS



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**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA,
CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

October 6, 2014

Below is a final list of the bills we tracked for your organization for 2014. Tuesday September 30th midnight was the deadline for the Governor to sign or veto the legislation that passed through the legislative process and made it to his desk.

The Governor signed all the veterans' bills that made it to his desk in the final days. We could not have done it without you, California's veterans. Many thanks to VVA Legislative Chair, Ken Holybee, who spent time at the state Capitol in our lobbying efforts testifying on bills, visiting legislator's offices and talking to legislative staff.

This year, AB 935 (Frazier) was signed into law allowing veterans to have the word "veteran" on their drivers' license. We have tried 4 bills in three years to get this legislation through. Because veterans signed and sent in over 2700 postcards and 200 letters, we finally did it. Assemblyman Frazier also worked very hard to get it through. Assemblyman Frazier is passionate on veterans' issues and a real friend of veterans in the Legislature.

Your support also helped ensure that county veterans' service offices received additional funding in the 2014/15 budget as they did in the last one. This allows them to increase the staffing in their offices and do outreach to veterans resulting in more claims for benefits filed on behalf of California's veterans.

As you know, we have an election early next month, so the Capitol is empty and legislators are in their districts, many running for reelection. The returning and the newly elected members of the Legislature will be sworn in at the Capitol on Monday, December 1st 2014 for the 2015/16 legislative session. They will be in Sacramento for a few days and then back to their districts until the beginning of January when the session really begins.

Then the process all starts again, deadlines to get legislation drafted, find authors, get the legislation introduced, through committees, etc.

During this time, we are hard at work preparing and formulating ideas for legislation for next year, building relationships with legislative staff, and meeting new legislators. As soon as they are back in December, we need to be ready to hit the ground running once again.

If you have ideas for legislation, please contact your organization Legislative Chair, Ken Holybee and give it to him for consideration by his committee.

Regarding the bill list below, if it says "Chaptered", the bill has been signed into law, "Vetoed" means the Governor rejected it and if it lists a legislative location, the bill did not make it through the legislative process and died along the way.

Most of the bills signed into law will take effect on January 1, 2015 unless otherwise specified in the bill.

For additional information on legislation, go to <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>.

1. [CA AB 13](#)

Author: Conway (R)
Title: Nonresident Tuition Exemption: Veterans
Location: **Chaptered**
Summary: Requires the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and requests the University of California to update and adopt policies regarding tuition rates for eligible veterans and their eligible dependents to ensure conformity to, and compliance with, a specified federal statute and the requirements of existing law.
Position: Support

2. [CA AB 114](#)

Author: Salas (D)
Title: Proposition 39: Implementation: Workforce Development
Location: Senate Inactive File
Summary: Amends existing law that appropriates funds to the State Workforce Development Board to develop and implement a competitive grant program for eligible community-based and other training workforce organizations prepared disadvantaged youth or veterans for employment. Requires the Board to require a grant recipient to report to the Board specified information, and to review and assess the program in achieving the training and workforce development goals, identify problems and barriers, and provide solutions.
Position: Support

3. [CA AB 186](#)

Author: Maienschein (R)
Title: Professions and Vocations: Military Spouses: Licenses
Location: **Chaptered**
Summary: Establishes a temporary licensure process for specified licensed professions for an applicant who holds a current, active, or unrestricted license in another jurisdiction and supplies evidence of being married to or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with an active duty member of the Armed Forces who is assigned to a duty station in the state. Requires an applicant seeking a temporary license as an engineer, land surveyor, geologist, geophysicist or hydrogeologist to pass the state examination.
Position: Support

4. [CA AB 585](#)

Author: Fox (D)
Title: Department of Veterans Affairs: Use of Real Property
Location: **Chaptered**
Summary: Requires the State Department of Veterans Affairs to create a prioritized list of unused or underutilized nonresidential real property owned by the Department and to propose potential uses that will benefit state veterans. Requires the Department to consider its inventory of properties as an integrated system, and to address how such uses could complement each other. Specifies that further study and evaluation may be necessary to determine the feasibility of use option and take steps toward implementation.

Position: Support

5. [CA AB 614](#)

Author: Chavez (R)

Title: State Veterans' Homes: Reimbursement Rates

Location: **Chaptered**

Summary: Provides that a veteran member of the Veterans' Home of California who is in intermediate care or skilled nursing care would not be subject to charges and fees if he or she meets specified criteria for disability status and payments by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs under specified federal regulations.

Position: Support

6. [CA AB 919](#)

Author: Williams (D)

Title: Sales and Use Taxes: Veterans: Itinerant Vendors

Location: **Chaptered**

Summary: Amends existing sales and use tax laws regarding itinerant vendors. Provides a procedure for a qualified veteran, who is a person who met specified requirements for being such a vendor, to submit a claim for certain qualified repayments with the State Board of Equalization. Requires the Board to certify to the Controller the amount of qualified repayments to be made to each veteran. Requires the Board to make payments of qualified repayments. Limits funding for repayments. Requires related reports.

Position: Support

7. [CA AB 935](#)

Author: Frazier (D)

Title: Driver's Licenses: Veteran Designation

Location: **Chaptered**

Summary: Allows an in-person applicant for a driver's license or identification card to request that the license or card be printed with the word veteran. Requires the applicant to present verification of veteran status on a specified form. Requires the county veterans service offices to verify an applicant's veteran status for these purposes. Authorizes an additional fee to a person who requests such designation.

Position: Sponsor

8. [CA AB 1397](#)

Author: Muratsuchi (D)

Title: State Civil Service: Veterans Preference Data

Location: **Chaptered**

Summary: Includes the veterans preference system among employment selection devices of the State Department of Human Resources. Requires that statistical information designed to yield the data and analysis necessary for the evaluation of equal employment opportunity within the State civil services that is maintained by the Department include specific data to determine the underutilization of groups on veterans status. Requires that data analysis to include specific information pertaining to veterans status.

Position: Support

9. [CA AB 1453](#)

Author: Quirk-Silva (D)

Title: Southern California Veterans Cemetery

Location: **Chaptered**

Summary: Requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to design, develop, construct, and equip a State-owned and State operated Southern California Veterans Cemetery in the City of Irvine. Makes all honorably discharged veterans, their spouses and eligible dependent children eligible for interment in the cemetery. Establishes a fee to be charged for interment. Creates a related fund to provide moneys for the cemetery. Authorizes acceptance of donations. Makes proposals for the cemetery subject to review.

Position: Support

10. [CA AB 1509](#)

Author: Fox (D)
Title: Veterans: Transition Assistance
Location: **Chaptered**
Summary: Requires 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. Relates to transition to civilian life. Requires the program to include California-specific transition assistance information.
Position: Support

11. [CA AB 1518](#)

Author: Eggman (D)
Title: Military: National Guard: Youth Challenge Program
Location: **Chaptered**
Summary: Authorizes the Adjutant General to establish a National Guard Youth Challenge Program which would provide a residential program and a post-residential mentoring period to improve life skills and employment potential of participants. Provides that the program would accept federal funding and the Military Department is required to enter into a memorandum of agreement with an appropriate school districts or county office of education for providing educational services.
Position: Support

12. [CA AB 1557](#)

Author: Holden (D)
Title: Board of Governors of Community Colleges: Member
Location: **Chaptered**
Summary: Specifies that members of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, to the greatest extent possible, should be inclusive and representative of the many demographic groups found in the State, and that the Board should reflect diversity of race and gender, and include, among others, disabled persons and veterans. Provides that each board member should bring his or her own best thinking and personal views to the Board's discussion.
Position: Support

13. [CA AB 1580](#)

Author: Yamada (D)
Title: Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund Recreation Fund
Location: Senate Inactive File
Summary: Creates the Veterans' Home Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Fund to provide for the general welfare of the residents living in State veterans' homes. Provides that moneys in the fund would be exempt from specified provisions relating to the determination of administrative costs owed by each state agency to the State. Requires the development of standardized expenditure procedures for the fund. Relates to reporting on the fund expenditures and the submission of itemized reports.

14. [CA AB 1589](#)

Author: Frazier (D)
Title: Military or Overseas Voters: Electronic Ballots
Location: **Chaptered**
Summary: Allows the application for a ballot to be considered a standing request for electronic delivery of a ballot for all elections conducted in the jurisdiction in which the military or overseas voter is eligible to vote and requires the elections official to provide for electronic delivery of the ballot.
Position: Support

15. [CA AB 1637](#)

Author: Frazier (D)
Title: Driver's Licenses: Veteran Designation
Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee
Summary: Allows an applicant for a driver's license or identification card to allow a person to request the driver's license or identification card be printed with the word VETERAN. Requires the applicant to present to the Department of Motor Vehicles proof of veteran status with a specified form. Requires the word VETERAN be printed on the face of the license or card. Authorizes the Department to charge an

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UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY SEP 27,
2014

JACK HARKINS LEGISLATIVE REPORT

U.S. SENATE & HOUSE IN RECESS SINCE SEPTEMBER 19

Next Senate Session OCT 15. Next House Session NOV 12.

The Library Of Congress website www.Congress.gov 'homepage' has a prominent tool tab titled "CONGRESS.GOV" at the right margin of the page, which opens the new official source for federal legislative information, including the 'Current Legislative Activities' of both the House and Senate.

CURRENT STATE SENATE & ASSEMBLY LEGISLATION

California state legislation status is available at www.leginfo.ca.gov Home page offers a 'BILL INFORMATION' button on the next-to-bottom row, which opens to a page with search tools to find bills by Number or Author or Keyword.

AB-13 College & University Tuition In-State enrollment for Veterans and Veterans' dependents, in conformance to Federal Statute. Passed Assembly & Senate for urgent action.

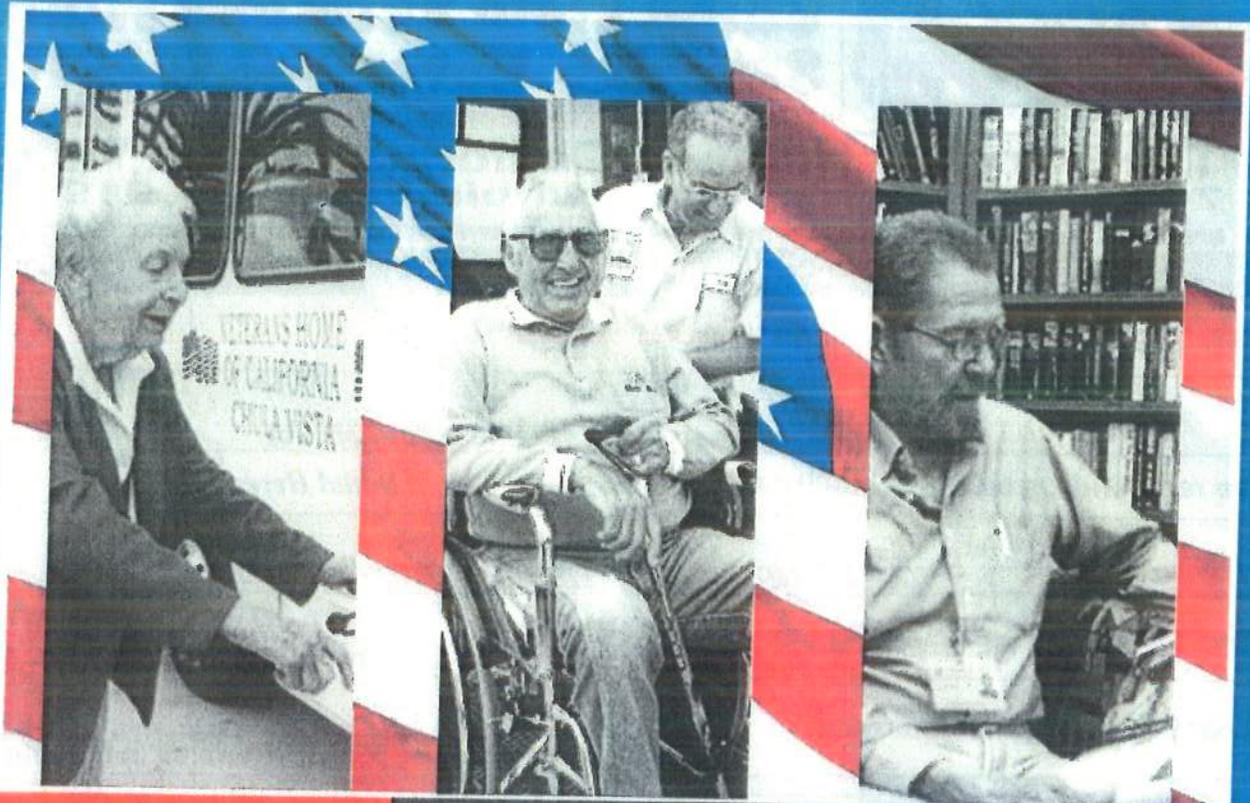
AB-1637. Veterans to have option for their driver's license have to word 'Veteran' imprinted. Passed Assembly & Senate and enacted into law.

AB-2545. Victims of sexual assault during military service may file claims for compensation through the CA Victims Compensation Program. Passed Assembly & Senate and enacted into law.

SB-1113. Exemption from property taxation of specified amounts of the assessed value of the home of a disabled Veteran or a Veteran's spouse under certain qualifying conditions. Passed Assembly & Senate

SB-1227. Judicial diversion authorization for courts to divert misdemeanor offense case of members of the military wherein the defendant 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, and the diversion be to treatment program participation with county mental health services provided to extent of availability. Passed Assembly & Senate

SB-1152. Property taxation exemptions for Veterans Service Organizations property held by its non-profit entity for performance of its Congressional charter functions. Active in Assembly process.



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OUR
VETERAN'S SUPPORT

HEROES
REMEMBERED



Chula Vista Veterans Walk

Saturday, November 1, 2014

The Veterans Home of California - Chula Vista
700 East Naples Court, Chula Vista, CA 91911

For more than 13 years, The Chula Vista Veterans Walk has become a special event devoted to help support veterans during their twilight years. Find out how you can help enrich the lives of those who served. Through your contributions and participation, we not only help support their quality of life, but we work together and improve our own quality of life through service! All proceeds benefit the Chula Vista Veterans Home. Volunteer, walk, support! Learn more!

www.CVVeteransWalk.org



D

Donation # _____ Check # _____ Amount: _____

Job - Class: VMMC VIETNAM EXHIBIT \$100⁰⁰ CHALLENGE



Donation Form

Veterans Museum & Memorial Center

Donor's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

General Fund

Declared Donation VIETNAM EXHIBIT

In-Kind Donation _____

In Memory Of _____

Membership _____

Other _____

Notes:

PHONE: _____

CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

DATES BY YEAR IN VIETNAM (IE 1965): _____

Date Received: _____ VMMC Initials: _____



E

Veterans Week San Diego
The San Diego Veterans Day Parade

www.SDVETparade.org

Veterans Week San Diego produces the ***San Diego Veterans Day Parade*** on November 11th, with ***"A Tribute to Afghanistan and Iraq Veterans"***!

An expression of deepest gratitude and welcome to the men and women who served during our nation's longest war era.

On ***Harbor Drive*** again in 2014, the prestige parade route of San Diego region!

Premier assembly of marching units, bands, and parade floats, providing a superb opportunity for San Diegans to show honor to the service of all Veterans of every era while also enjoying a spectacular event.

Sponsorship opportunities and accompanying recognitions in 2014 are as follows.

Diamond Patriot Sponsor: \$10,000 Recognitions in Media Presentations, Print Media and Parade Program. "Champion Float name sponsor".

Platinum Patriot: \$5,000 Recognitions in Print Media and Parade Program. "Float name sponsor" designee. Logo on Website. Banner.

Gold Patriot Sponsor: \$2,500 Recognitions in Program, Website, Review stand.

Silver Patriot Sponsor: \$1,000 & above. Recognitions in Program, Website,

Bronze Patriot Sponsor: \$500 & above. Recognitions in Program, Website.

Requests about Parade sponsorship and participation are welcomed by
Chairman Jack Harkins (619) 804-3200 or VeteransWeek1@gmail.com



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Sheri Malvestuto
Director

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