

# New CA veteran legislation

The following is a listing of some new veteran related bills on veterans issues which are starting the committee review process. Veterans are encouraged to contact their state legislators to express their support of this legislation. Complete information on all state legislation involving veterans' issues is available at <http://www.califveterans.com>:

- AB 1925 Diversion: veterans. (Mary Salas, Chula Vista). Would authorize superior courts to develop and implement veterans courts for eligible veterans of the United States military with the objective of, among other things, creation of a dedicated calendar or a locally developed collaborative court-supervised veterans mental health program or system that leads to the placement of as many mentally ill offenders who are veterans of the United States military, including those with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, military sexual trauma, substance abuse, or any mental health problem stemming from military service, in community treatment as is feasible and consistent with public safety.

- AB 2143 The Department of Veterans Affairs: consolidation of services to veterans. (Danny Gilmore, Hanford). Would declare the intent of the Legislature to subsequently provide for the consolidation under the jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the California Veterans Board or all programs that currently bestow any benefits for which veterans may be eligible but which are currently under the jurisdiction of other state agencies, and to provide for a commensurate transfer of staff and other assets from those agencies to the department and to the board. This is an interesting concept but raises

very serious questions concerning feasibility. Some of the veterans benefits currently managed by other state agencies include:

- 1) College Tuition Fee Waivers For Veterans' Dependents
- 2) Non-Resident College Fee Waiver
- 3) Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunities
- 4) Disabled Veteran License Plates
- 5) Veterans Preference In California Civil Service Examinations
- 6) Fishing And Hunting Licenses
- 7) Employment And Unemployment Insurance Assistance
- 8) State Parks And Recreation Pass
- 9) Business

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**May 1, 2010** • Cinco de Mayo Family Festival at Motherlode Fairgrounds, 5 to 9 p.m.

**May 4, 2010** • VVA-391 Board of directors meeting, Veterans Memorial Hall, 7 p.m.

**May 4, 1942** • World War II: Battle of Coral Sea begun (1st sea battle fought solely in the air).

**May 5, 1916** • U.S. Marine Corps invade Dominican Republic, stay until 1924.

**May 5, 1864** • Battle of the Wilderness begins.

**May 13, 2010** • VVA-391 Pot Luck and General Meeting at Sonora Veterans Memorial Hall, A-G bring a dessert, H-M bring a salad, N-Z bring a main dish. Bring enough for 6-8 people.

**May 13, 1945** • World War II: U.S. troops conquer Dakeshi Okinawa.

**May 14, 1863** • Civil War: The Battle of Jackson takes place.

**May 15, 1962** • Vietnam: U.S. Marine Corps arrive in Laos.

**May 15, 1972** • The U.S. Army Ryukyu Island (Okinawa) reverted to the full control of Japan but the U.S. retained its rights to nuclear-free bases.



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