

**Senate Bill No. 1281**

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Passed the Senate    May 20, 2002

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*Secretary of the Senate*

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Passed the Assembly    August 15, 2002

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*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

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This bill was received by the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2002, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Private Secretary of the Governor*



## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

An act to add Sections 1035.6 and 1035.7 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1281, Haynes. Veterans homes: accounting for charges.

Under existing law, a member of a veterans home is required to pay fees and charges as determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

This bill would require the administrator of the home to provide each member of the home upon admission, with a written notice, as specified, of the costs of care that may be incurred in excess of the member contribution fee, and with a quarterly statement or accounting of all charges for the costs of care rendered to the member in excess of the member fee, as defined.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 1035.6 is added to the Military and Veterans Code, to read:

1035.6. (a) The administrator shall provide each member of the home with a quarterly statement or accounting of all charges for the cost of care rendered to the member in excess of the member fee, as defined in subdivision (b). The quarterly statement or accounting of charges shall clearly indicate that the charges for the excess costs of care are provided to the member for informational purposes only.

(b) "Cost of care in excess of the member fee" means all costs that are not covered by the member contribution fee, including, but not limited to, the unreimbursed cost of medical or dental services rendered to the member, either by the home or under contract with the home. The Department of Veterans Affairs shall promulgate regulations specifying the costs that are in excess of the member contribution fee and constitute the unreimbursed cost of care.

SEC. 2. Section 1035.7 is added to the Military and Veterans Code, to read:

1035.7. Upon admission to a California veterans home, the administrator of each home shall provide written notice to the



veteran informing him or her of costs of care that may be incurred in excess of the member contribution fee. The notification shall:

(a) Include an explanation of circumstances under which the member may incur costs that are in excess of the contribution fee.

(b) Specifically indicate that these excess costs of care are costs in addition to, or above and beyond, the member contribution fee.

(c) Provide examples of “excess costs of care that are frequently incurred by veterans.”

(d) Inform the member that he or she will receive a quarterly accounting statement of the total excess costs of care, but that the statement is provided for informational purposes only.

(e) Inform the veteran that, if he or she is a resident of the home at the time of death, the home may disburse his or her moneys or personal property for payment of unreimbursed excess costs of care.

(f) Include a statement advising the member to seek counsel from a legal expert to protect his or her assets.



Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2002

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*Governor*

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