

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 22, 2010

SENATE BILL

No. 1127

Introduced by Senator Oropeza

February 18, 2010

An act to add Section 712 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1127, as amended, Oropeza. Veterans: ~~military-to-civilian life transition:~~ ailments from various conflicts information to family members.

Existing law establishes the Department of Veterans' Affairs within state government and sets forth its powers and duties, including, but not limited to, administration of veterans benefits programs.

This bill would require the department to make ~~information~~ available to family members of veterans returning from active duty ~~that will help family members facilitate the transition from military to civilian life~~ user friendly Internet resources that provide information on the signs of pertinent ailments from various conflicts, as specified, and printed material regarding those ailments at any public function of the department. This bill would require counties, whenever possible, to make facilities available to the department or any of its official representatives or partners for the purpose of reintegration seminars, briefings, or lectures regarding those ailments.

By requiring counties to make facilities available to the department or any of its official representatives, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: ~~no~~-yes.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 712 is added to the Military and Veterans
 2 Code, to read:
 3 712. (a) The department shall make available to family
 4 members of veterans returning from active duty both of the
 5 following:
 6 (1) (A) User friendly Internet resources that provide information
 7 on the signs of pertinent ailments from various conflicts, including,
 8 but not limited to, all of the following:
 9 (i) From the Vietnam War, exposure to Agent Orange and
 10 post-traumatic stress disorder.
 11 (ii) From Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm,
 12 exposure to depleted uranium and Gulf War Syndrome.
 13 (iii) From Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi
 14 Freedom, traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress
 15 disorder.
 16 (B) The Internet resources shall provide links to the appropriate
 17 agency or person that may help the family members of the veteran
 18 address any issues arising from the ailments specified in
 19 subparagraph (A).
 20 (2) Printed material regarding the ailments specified in
 21 paragraph (1) at any public function of the department.
 22 (b) Whenever possible, counties shall make facilities available
 23 to the department or any of its official representatives or partners
 24 including, but not limited to, county veterans service officers or
 25 nonprofit organizations designated by the department, for the
 26 purpose of reintegration seminars, briefings, or lectures regarding
 27 the ailments specified in subdivision (a). If the seminars, briefings,

1 *or lectures are held during regular business hours, counties are*
2 *encouraged to offer the facilities at no extra charge.*

3 *SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that*
4 *this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to*
5 *local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made*
6 *pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division*
7 *4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.*

8 ~~SECTION 1. Section 712 is added to the Military and Veterans~~
9 ~~Code, to read:~~

10 ~~712. The Department of Veterans Affairs shall make~~
11 ~~information available to family members of veterans returning~~
12 ~~from active duty that will help family members facilitate the~~
13 ~~transition from military to civilian life.~~