

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 6, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 159

Introduced by Assembly Members Gorell and Ma
*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Brownley, Galgiani, Lara, Miller,
and Portantino)*

June 11, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 159—Relative to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 159, as amended, Gorell. Postsecondary education: military veterans.

This measure encourages California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California to consider and adopt the American Council on Education credit recommendations to give veterans due credit for their military experience.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, There are over 1.4 million Americans actively
2 serving in the Armed Forces at home and abroad; and
3 ~~WHEREAS, There are over two million veterans returning from~~
4 ~~conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan; and~~
5 WHEREAS, Veterans represent a broad spectrum of our society
6 that include older students with work and family responsibilities,
7 students whose college entry has been delayed, first-generation
8 students, and students with lower and middle socioeconomic
9 statuses; and

1 WHEREAS, Veterans returning from overseas combat encounter
2 many obstacles to reentering society such as posttraumatic stress
3 disorder, depression, anxiety, and other medical conditions; and

4 WHEREAS, Veterans have gained valuable skills through their
5 military training and combat experience; and

6 WHEREAS, Some of this experience is firsthand experience in
7 much needed professions such as emergency medicine, engineering,
8 and law enforcement; and

9 WHEREAS, The G.I. Bill gives veterans the ability to enroll in
10 postsecondary education courses after returning from service; and

11 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States enacted the
12 Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (Public
13 Law 110-252) to encourage returning veterans to attain a college
14 education by covering the cost of tuition and providing other
15 incentives; and

16 WHEREAS, The American Council on Education credit
17 recommendations are strong indicators of military experience and
18 knowledge acquired, and that experience should be counted toward
19 college credit; and

20 WHEREAS, More than 2,300 colleges and universities recognize
21 the American Council on Education endorsed transcripts as official
22 documentation of military experiences and accurate records of
23 applicable American Council on Education credit
24 recommendations; and

25 WHEREAS, Education has historically been viewed as the great
26 equalizer; and

27 WHEREAS, The California State Assembly and Senate value
28 military service; now, therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring, That California Community Colleges, the*
31 *California State University, and the University of California are*
32 *encouraged to consider and adopt the American Council on*
33 *Education credit recommendations to give veterans due credit for*
34 *their military experience, which will result in more veterans*
35 *graduating from a public postsecondary-~~education~~ educational*
36 *institution, and will help ensure the success of our veterans at our*
37 *public postsecondary-~~education~~ educational institutions; and be it*
38 *further*

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 of this resolution to the authors for appropriate distribution.

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