

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2133

Introduced by Assembly Member Blumenfield

February 23, 2012

An act to amend ~~Sections 66025.8 and 68075.5~~ *Section 66025.8* of the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2133, as amended, Blumenfield. Veterans: priority ~~registration and resident classification.~~ *registration.*

~~(1) Existing~~

Existing law, the Donahoe Higher Education Act, sets forth the missions and functions of the public institutions of higher education in the state, which include the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California. Existing law requires the California State University and each community college district, and requests the University of California, to grant priority registration for enrollment to a member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States, who is a resident of California, and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge, and to any member or former member of the State Military Reserve who has not received a specified discharge, for any academic term attended at one of these institutions within 4 years of leaving state or federal active duty.

This bill also would ~~require the California State University and each community college district, and request the University of California, to grant priority registration for enrollment to those persons who served active duty in Iraq since that conflict began in 2003, or in Afghanistan~~

since that conflict began in 2001, for any academic term attended at one of these institutions, not just those academic terms within 4 years of leaving state or federal active duty. *enact the Combat to College Act of 2012, which would extend the period during which those institutions are required, and requested, to grant priority registration for enrollment to within 15 years of leaving state or federal active duty.* The bill also would require the priority registration for enrollment to apply to enrollment for all degree *and certificate* programs offered by the institution.

~~(2) Existing law defines a resident for purposes of tuition as a student who has a residence in the state for more than one year immediately preceding the residence determination date. Existing law entitles a student who was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty for more than one year immediately before being discharged to resident classification for a specified time period.~~

~~This bill would require those students to become residents after having a residence in the state for more than 6 months, instead of one year.~~

~~(3) By~~

~~By requiring community college districts to provide priority registration for enrollment and a resident classification, as specified for additional years, the 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: yes.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. *This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the*
- 2 *Combat to College Act of 2012.*
- 3 SECTION 1.
- 4 SEC. 2. Section 66025.8 of the Education Code is amended to
- 5 read:

1 66025.8. (a) The California State University and each
2 community college district shall, and the University of California
3 is requested to, with respect to each campus in their respective
4 jurisdictions that administers a priority enrollment system, grant
5 priority in that system for registration for enrollment as follows:

6 ~~(1) To a to any member or former member of the Armed Forces~~
7 ~~of the United States, and who is a resident of California, who has~~
8 ~~received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other~~
9 ~~than honorable discharge, and to any member or former member~~
10 ~~of the State Military Reserve, for any academic term attended at~~
11 ~~one of these institutions within four 15 years of leaving state or~~
12 ~~federal active duty.~~

13 ~~(2) To a person described in paragraph (1) who served in active~~
14 ~~duty in Iraq since that conflict began in March 2003, or in~~
15 ~~Afghanistan since that conflict began in 2001, for any academic~~
16 ~~term attended at one of these institutions.~~

17 (b) A former member of the Armed Forces of the United States
18 or the State Military Reserve who received a dishonorable
19 discharge or a bad conduct discharge is not eligible for priority
20 registration for enrollment pursuant to this section.

21 (c) The priority registration for enrollment provided pursuant
22 to this section shall apply to enrollment for all degree *and*
23 *certificate* programs offered by the institution.

24 (d) (1) For the purposes of this section, “Armed Forces of the
25 United States” means the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine
26 Corps, National Guard, Naval Militia, Navy, and the reserve
27 components of each of those forces, including the California
28 National Guard.

29 (2) As used in this section, “member or former member of the
30 Armed Forces of the United States” includes, but is not necessarily
31 limited to, any student who is called to active military duty
32 compelling that student to take an academic leave of absence.

33 ~~SEC. 2. Section 68075.5 of the Education Code is amended to~~
34 ~~read:~~

35 ~~68075.5. (a) A student who was a member of the Armed Forces~~
36 ~~of the United States stationed in this state on active duty for more~~
37 ~~than one year immediately before being discharged from the armed~~
38 ~~forces is entitled to resident classification for the length of time~~
39 ~~he or she lives in this state after being discharged up to the~~
40 ~~minimum time necessary to become a resident.~~

1 ~~(b) Notwithstanding Section 68017, a person described in~~
2 ~~subdivision (a) shall become a resident upon having a residence,~~
3 ~~pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 68060), in the~~
4 ~~state for more than six months immediately preceding the residence~~
5 ~~determination date.~~
6 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
7 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
8 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
9 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
10 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.