

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 20, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 46**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Frazier**

May 1, 2014

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 46—Relative to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 46, as amended, Frazier. Birth anomalies: children of veterans.

This measure would urge the United States Congress to pass, and the United States President to sign into law, ~~Senate Bill 1602 and House Resolution 4816~~ 2738 and would encourage the members of the California Congressional Delegation to join as coauthors on the bill.

Fiscal committee: no.

1     WHEREAS, Over the years millions have served our great  
2 nation in the Armed Forces of the United States. During their  
3 service many have been exposed to toxins with unknown  
4 consequences. Most of these veterans did not know they were  
5 exposed to harmful materials, with many of these veterans suffering  
6 from the harmful effects of these toxins; and

7     WHEREAS, Many children and grandchildren of these veterans  
8 were born with both structural and nonstructural defects. Some  
9 have been accepted by the United States Department of Veterans  
10 Affairs as a result of the exposures from their parent's service; and

11     WHEREAS, Birth anomalies in the children of veterans are not  
12 tracked as normal birth defects, so most go unreported,

1 unexplained, and not researched. These anomalies have some  
2 similarities but follow mostly unreported and under researched  
3 paths; and

4 WHEREAS, Most states that have birth defect registries do not  
5 report to a national registry. Miscarriages and still births are seldom  
6 researched for cause, these are not tracked on a national registry.  
7 Even death and defects at military hospitals relating to the children  
8 of ~~dependants~~ *dependents* are not tracked or not put into a federal  
9 registry; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs  
11 and the Department of Defense have been tracking toxic exposures  
12 and possible exposures without followup research on the veterans  
13 and their offspring; and

14 WHEREAS, Parents of children with birth defects carry a heavy  
15 emotional and financial burden. Veterans that have been exposed  
16 to toxins normally have a shorter lifespan than others of their  
17 generation. Someone will need to cover costs and care for the  
18 children left behind; and

19 WHEREAS, ~~Senate Bill 1602 and its companion bill House~~  
20 ~~Resolution 4816~~ 2738 would create a center of excellence to test,  
21 study, and find solutions to the illnesses and anomalies affecting  
22 the children of veterans from all-~~era's~~ *eras* and duty stations. This  
23 center would be created within the United States Department of  
24 ~~Veteran~~ *Veterans* Affairs and monitored by committees to ensure  
25 transparency. ~~Senate Bill 1602 and House Resolution 4816~~ 2738  
26 would also create a database of birth defects and anomalies both  
27 structural and nonstructural; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
29 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature respectfully urges the  
30 United States Congress to pass, and the United States President to  
31 sign into law, ~~Senate Bill 1602 and House Resolution 4816~~ 2738  
32 and encourages the members of the California Congressional  
33 Delegation to join as coauthors on the ~~bills~~ *bill*; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
35 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
36 States and to the members of the United States Congress.

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