

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 4, 2013

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 15, 2013

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 1, 2013

SENATE BILL

No. 237

Introduced by Senator Calderon
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Brown)

February 12, 2013

An act to amend Sections 51430 and 51442 of the Education Code, relating to retroactive high school diplomas.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 237, as amended, Calderon. High school diplomas: retroactive high school diplomas: veterans.

Existing law authorizes a high school district, unified school district, or county office of education to retroactively grant a high school diploma to veterans of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, under specified conditions. Existing law also defines "veteran" for the purpose of retroactive high school diplomas.

This bill would make those provisions applicable to all veterans, and would revise the definition of veteran for purposes of those provisions to include, among other things, service in humanitarian missions.

Existing law also requires each pupil completing grade 12, unless he or she is granted a waiver for specified reasons, to successfully pass the high school exit examination as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation or a condition of graduation from high school.

This bill would require the governing board of a high school district, unified school district, or county office of education, before granting a retroactive high school diploma, as specified, to require a person eligible

to receive a retroactive high school diploma *who began service after May 1, 1973*, to pass the high school exit examination ~~or verify that~~, *unless* the person has satisfactorily completed at least ½ of the coursework required for grade 12.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 51430 of the Education Code is amended
 2 to read:

3 51430. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, and except as
 4 provided in subdivision (c), a high school district, unified school
 5 district, or county office of education may retroactively grant a
 6 high school diploma to a person who has not received a high school
 7 diploma if he or she meets either of the following conditions:

8 (1) The person was interned by order of the federal government
 9 during World War II and was enrolled in a high school operated
 10 by the school district or under the jurisdiction of the county office
 11 of education immediately preceding his or her internment and did
 12 not receive a high school diploma because his or her education
 13 was interrupted due to his or her internment during World War II.

14 (2) The person is a veteran, as defined in Section 51442, was
 15 honorably discharged from his or her military service, was enrolled
 16 in a high school operated by the school district or under the
 17 jurisdiction of the county office of education immediately
 18 preceding his or her military service, and did not receive a high
 19 school diploma because his or her education was interrupted due
 20 to his or her military service.

21 (b) A high school district, unified school district, or county
 22 office of education may retroactively grant a high school diploma
 23 to a deceased person who meets the conditions of paragraph (1)
 24 or (2) of subdivision (a), to be received by the next of kin of the
 25 deceased person.

26 (c) The governing board of a high school district, unified school
 27 district, or county office of education shall, before granting a
 28 retroactive high school diploma pursuant to subdivision (a) *to a*
 29 *person who began service after May 1, 1973*, ~~require a~~ *the* person
 30 who is eligible to receive a retroactive high school diploma to pass
 31 the high school exit examination required for high school

1 graduation pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 60850)
2 of Part 33 ~~or verify that~~, *unless* the person has satisfactorily
3 completed at least one-half of the coursework required for grade
4 12.

5 SEC. 2. Section 51442 of the Education Code is amended to
6 read:

7 51442. For purposes of this article, “veteran” means a person
8 who has served 90 days or more in the military service of the
9 United States during a war with a foreign power, as defined in
10 Section 22804, a humanitarian mission, or any national emergency
11 declared by the President of the United States and who has received
12 an honorable discharge from that service.

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