

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 930

Introduced by Assembly Members Irwin and Atkins
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Mathis)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Brough, Brown, Frazier, and Salas)

February 26, 2015

An act to add Section 980.7 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 930, as amended, Irwin. Work for Warriors program.

Existing law establishes the ~~office of Adjutant General in the California Military Department, as the commander of all state military forces. California Military Department, which includes the office of the Adjutant General, the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, the California Cadet Corps, and the Naval Militia.~~ Existing law provides for educational and housing assistance for veterans.

This bill would authorize the ~~Adjutant General California Military Department~~ to establish a Work for Warriors program, to provide direct placement job services to service members, veterans, ~~and military families. military families, and other related populations.~~ The bill would authorize the ~~Adjutant General to accept federal funding to supplement this program and to enter into a memorandum of agreement with other state agencies. The bill would authorize the Employment Development Department to enter into an interagency partnership with the Adjutant General for purposes of the Work for Warriors program. department to accept federal funding to supplement this program, and to adopt~~

regulations, rules, and guidelines as are necessary to implement the program.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) Established in 2012 with a grant from the Speaker of the
- 4 Assembly, the California Military Department’s Work for Warriors
- 5 program provides direct-placement employment services to
- 6 California’s veterans, military spouses, and dependents.
- 7 (2) The most successful program of its kind in the nation, the
- 8 Work for Warriors program has placed more than ~~3,600~~ 3,900
- 9 veterans in new careers.
- 10 (3) Due to the downsizing of the United States Armed Forces,
- 11 the number of veterans entering the workforce is increasing. The
- 12 Work for Warriors program is a key resource for veterans leaving
- 13 active duty and transitioning to private sector employment in
- 14 California.
- 15 (4) Based on its high success rate and low cost per placement,
- 16 the Work for Warriors program is the most effective veterans’ job
- 17 placement program in the country. At present, there are nearly
- 18 120,000 service members eligible for assistance from the Work
- 19 for Warriors program residing within the state. This number nearly
- 20 doubles when estimating spouses’ job placement services and
- 21 triples when considering dependent job placement. Already the
- 22 lowest cost program in the country, with a per-placement cost of
- 23 ~~\$400~~ \$750 (compared to other veteran employment programs that
- 24 cost \$10,000 per placement), the Work for Warriors program is
- 25 the most efficient and cost-effective program available.
- 26 (5) Over ~~200~~ 250 leading businesses in the state are partnered
- 27 with the Work for Warriors program. These companies understand
- 28 the benefit of hiring a veteran, as they receive employees that are
- 29 disciplined, selfless leaders.
- 30 (6) Subject to the availability of funding, the Employment
- 31 Development Department may resource and partner with the Work
- 32 for Warriors program to supplement the state’s existing veteran
- 33 employment programs.

1 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to codify the California
2 Military Department's Work for Warriors program and establish
3 an interagency relationship between the program and the
4 Employment Development Department to better serve California's
5 veterans as they transition from military to civilian life.

6 SEC. 2. Section 980.7 is added to the Military and Veterans
7 Code, to read:

8 980.7. (a) ~~(1) The Adjutant General~~ *The California Military*
9 *Department* may establish a Work for Warriors program to ~~serve~~
10 ~~provide direct placement employment services to~~ unemployed and
11 underemployed service members, veterans, ~~and military families~~
12 ~~in California.~~ *California Military Department Youth program*
13 *graduates, military families in California, and other related*
14 *populations.*

15 ~~(2) The program shall provide direct placement job services to~~
16 ~~all of the following:~~

17 ~~(A) The California Military Department.~~

18 ~~(B) The Army.~~

19 ~~(C) The Navy.~~

20 ~~(D) The Air Force.~~

21 ~~(E) The Marine Corps.~~

22 ~~(F) The Coast Guard Reserve.~~

23 ~~(G) Veterans recently separated from active duty.~~

24 ~~(H) Military spouses.~~

25 ~~(I) Graduates of California National Guard Youth Programs.~~

26 ~~(J) Dependents of veterans.~~

27 ~~(3)~~

28 ~~(b) The Adjutant General department~~ may accept federal funding
29 to supplement the Work for Warriors program. ~~The Adjutant~~
30 ~~General may appoint a director and other service members and~~
31 ~~employees, permanent or temporary, to operate the program.~~

32 ~~(b) (1) The Adjutant General may enter into a memorandum~~
33 ~~of agreement with other state agencies, including, but not limited~~
34 ~~to, the Employment Development Department, to operate the Work~~
35 ~~for Warriors Program.~~

36 ~~(2) The Employment Development Department may enter into~~
37 ~~an interagency partnership with the Adjutant General for purposes~~
38 ~~of the Work for Warriors program.~~

- 1 (c) *If the department establishes a Work for Warriors program,*
- 2 *the department shall adopt such regulations, rules, and guidelines*
- 3 *as are necessary to implement the program.*

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