

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 8, 2016  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 23, 2016  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1672**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Mathis**

January 15, 2016

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An act to add and repeal Section 68530 to of the Government Code, relating to courts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1672, as amended, Mathis. Veterans *and community* courts: Judicial Council study.

Existing law establishes a statewide system of courts with a superior court of one or more judges in each county. Existing law requires the Judicial Council to prescribe the methods, means, and standards for electronic collection of data related to court administration, practice, and procedure.

This bill would require the Judicial Council to conduct, until January 1, 2018, a study on the impact of ~~lack of access to~~ veterans courts or veterans treatment courts on veterans involved with the criminal justice ~~system~~ system, *the impact on veterans of lack of access to veterans courts or veterans treatment courts in those counties that do not have them, the utility of community courts as a substitute for veterans courts or veterans treatment courts*, and the use of technology to deliver veterans court services to counties without veterans courts or veterans treatment courts, if funds are received for the study, as specified. The bill would require the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature on the results of the study, as specified, on or before June 1, 2019.

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. Section 68530 is added to the Government Code,  
2 to read:  
3 68530. (a) If the Judicial Council receives funds for the  
4 purpose of implementing this section, the Judicial Council shall,  
5 commencing on January 1, 2017, and concluding on January 1,  
6 2018, study *and assess* the following:  
7 (1) The impact of ~~lack of access to~~ veterans courts or veterans  
8 treatment courts on veterans involved with the criminal justice  
9 system, including, but not limited to, the impact on *recidivism*,  
10 mental health, homelessness, employment, social stability, and  
11 substance abuse.  
12 (2) *The impact of lack of access to veterans courts or veterans*  
13 *treatment courts on veterans involved in the criminal justice system*  
14 *in counties that do not have veterans courts or veterans treatment*  
15 *courts.*  
16 (3) *The utility of community courts as a substitute for veterans*  
17 *courts in those counties that do not have veterans courts or*  
18 *veterans treatment courts.*  
19 ~~(2)~~  
20 (4) The use of technology to deliver veterans court services to  
21 counties without veterans courts or veterans treatment courts.  
22 (b) On or before June 1, 2019, the Judicial Council shall report  
23 to the Legislature on the results of the study. The report shall  
24 include recommendations regarding the expansion of veterans  
25 court services to counties without veterans courts or veterans  
26 treatment courts, including the feasibility and implementation of  
27 technology that will support that expansion. The report shall be  
28 submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government  
29 Code.  
30 (c) Fifty percent of the funds required for the study and report  
31 described in this section shall be funded by private sources, and  
32 50 percent of the funds required for the study shall be funded by  
33 the state, upon appropriation by the Legislature.

1 (d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2020,  
2 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that  
3 is enacted before January 1, 2020, deletes or extends that date.

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