

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 7, 1997  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 1997  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997-98 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 324**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Baldwin**  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Peace)

February 14, 1997

An act to add Section 1012.5 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 324, as amended, Baldwin. Veterans ~~Organic Brain Syndrome~~ *Alzheimer's Disease* and related dementia.

Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of the Veterans' Home of California at various sites for aged and disabled veterans who meet certain eligibility criteria.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on adequate and appropriate care for veterans afflicted with ~~Organic Brain Syndrome, including~~ Alzheimer's disease and other related dementia diseases or afflictions, and to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature on or before June 30, 1998.

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. It is the intent of the Legislature in  
2 enacting this act to study the level of need for the care of  
3 veterans who have been diagnosed with ~~Organic Brain~~  
4 ~~Syndrome, including~~ Alzheimer’s disease and other  
5 related dementia diseases or afflictions. It is further the  
6 intent of the Legislature to develop a plan for adequate  
7 staff and facilities to provide these veterans with  
8 appropriate care and treatment.

9 SEC. 2. Section 1012.5 is added to the Military and  
10 Veterans Code, to read:

11 1012.5. (a) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall  
12 conduct a study to determine what is adequate and  
13 appropriate care for veterans diagnosed with ~~Organic~~  
14 ~~Brain Syndrome, including~~ Alzheimer’s disease and other  
15 related dementia diseases or afflictions. The study shall  
16 include, but shall not be limited to:

17 (1) An assessment of the level of staffing and facilities  
18 needed for the care of these veterans. This assessment  
19 shall include a short-term and long-term projection of  
20 level of need for current members of the homes and  
21 veterans who are diagnosed with ~~Organic Brain~~  
22 ~~Syndrome~~ *Alzheimer’s disease and other related*  
23 *dementia diseases or afflictions* but who are not current  
24 members of the homes.

25 (2) In conjunction with the State Department of  
26 Health Services, the Department of Aging, Commission  
27 on Aging, the Department of Finance, California  
28 Veteran’s Board, and the Alzheimer’s Association, the  
29 provision of coordinated health care and related services  
30 to these veterans.

31 (3) Use of existing services, programs, and resources  
32 for the treatment and care of these veterans.

33 (4) An assessment of additional services, programs,  
34 and resources needed for the treatment and care of these  
35 veterans.

36 (5) Pursuit of grant funding to conduct research on the  
37 care and treatment of those diagnosed with Alzheimer’s  
38 disease to be conducted at the veterans’ homes.



1 (6) An estimate of the associated costs of the staffing,  
2 facilities, and programs necessary to provide adequate  
3 and appropriate care of these veterans.

4 (b) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall submit  
5 the findings of its study to the Governor, the Legislative  
6 Analyst's Office, the Assembly Governmental  
7 Organization Committee, and the Senate Veterans  
8 Affairs Committee on or before June 30, 1998.

9 (c) Performance of the duties set forth in subdivisions  
10 (a) and (b) shall not have the effect of diminishing, or in  
11 any way interfering with, the department's discretion to  
12 also proceed with any additional, current, or future  
13 administrative efforts to achieve the goals set forth in this  
14 section.

