

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 5, 2012
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 25, 2012
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2012
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 29, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1931

Introduced by Assembly Member Gorell

February 22, 2012

An act to add Section 90 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1931, as amended, Gorell. Department of Veterans Affairs: consolidation of services to veterans.

Existing law establishes the Department of Veterans Affairs, which is responsible for administering various programs and services for the benefit of veterans.

This bill would establish the California Veterans Services and Workforce Development Division within the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of coordinating and administering veterans assistance programs in the state, and would require the division to perform various functions and duties relating to the coordination and administration of veterans assistance programs, as specified. The bill would require the administrative and support staff responsible for the administration of the specified programs to be transferred from the Employment Development Department to the division, and would

require the costs of the transfer to utilize existing resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 90 is added to the Military and Veterans
2 Code, to read:

3 90. (a) The California Veterans Services and Workforce
4 Development Division is hereby established within the department
5 for the purpose of coordinating and administering veterans
6 assistance programs in the state. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
7 shall have authority over the division.

8 (b) The division shall do all of the following:

9 (1) Coordinate with other state agencies, including, but not
10 limited to, the California Interagency Council on Veterans, that
11 provide benefits and assistance to veterans to ensure that
12 information about veterans assistance programs and benefits is
13 made available to all state agencies that serve veterans in the state.

14 (2) Administer the programs and services described in the
15 federal Jobs for Veterans State Grant Program, including, but not
16 limited to, overseeing the federal Local Veterans' Employment
17 Representatives program (LVER), ~~and~~ the Transition Assistance
18 Program (TAP), *and the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program*
19 *(DVOP)*, as currently administered by the Employment
20 Development Department (EDD). The division shall work with
21 staff from the EDD to develop a plan whereby responsibility for
22 the administration of these programs shall be transferred from the
23 EDD to the division. The development of the plan shall be
24 completed on or before May 1, 2013.

25 (3) Ensure that other state agencies and officials that are
26 involved in the implementation and administration of veterans
27 services programs are informed when any changes in existing
28 programs are required, or new programs are established that
29 provide assistance and benefits to veterans, and require that those
30 agencies and officials report to the division when those changes
31 occur or new programs are established.

32 (4) Collaborate with the California Interagency Council on
33 Veterans to implement any further change to the delivery of

1 veterans services not prescribed by the plan in paragraph (2) to
2 implement this section.

3 (c) (1) In complying with this section, all administrative and
4 support staff responsible for the administration of TAP, *DVOP*,
5 and the LVER shall be transferred from the EDD to the division.

6 (2) Any costs associated with the implementation of these
7 transfers shall utilize existing resources of the Department of
8 Veterans Affairs, as the operational cost of these programs utilizes
9 funding from the Jobs for Veterans State Grant program, as
10 prescribed within the United States Department of Labor.