

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1509

Introduced by Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs

March 3, 2025

An act to add Section 91 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1509, as introduced, Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs. Veterans: educational assistance.

Existing law creates the Department of Veterans Affairs, headed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, imbued with certain powers and duties with regard to providing services and support to veterans and their dependents and survivors. The department is authorized to cooperate and contract with the duly authorized representative of the United States government in carrying out its duties. Existing law provides various benefits to veterans and their dependents including opportunities for veterans to continue their education. Existing federal law provides educational awards for eligible active duty members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States.

This bill would create the California State Accrediting Agency for Veterans Education (CSAAVE) within the department. The bill would require the CSAAVE to implement federal requirements and administer state requirements for an organization that is seeking authorization to offer education awards under federal law, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to adopt and amend regulations to implement these provisions. This bill would provide that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has signatory authority for the CSAAVE.

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 91 is added to the Military and Veterans
2 Code, to read:
3 91. (a) The California State Accrediting Agency for Veterans
4 Education (CSAAVE) is hereby created within the department.
5 (b) The CSAAVE shall implement federal requirements and
6 administer state requirements for an organization seeking
7 authorization to offer awards under Chapter 36 of Title 38 of the
8 United States Code and Subpart D of Part 21 of Title 38 of the
9 Code of Federal Regulations for a state approving agency.
10 (c) (1) The department may adopt regulations to implement
11 Chapter 36 of Title 38 of the United States Code, Subpart D of
12 Part 21 of Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and this
13 section.
14 (2) The department may amend regulations adopted pursuant
15 to paragraph (1) to account for changes in state or federal statutes
16 and regulations.
17 (3) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs has signatory authority
18 for the CSAAVE in adherence with the provisions of the
19 Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with
20 Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government
21 Code).

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