

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 81

Introduced by Assembly Member Ta

December 19, 2024

An act to add and repeal Section 716 of the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 81, as introduced, Ta. Veterans: mental health.

Existing law establishes the Department of Veterans Affairs. The department, among other services, provides veterans and their dependents and survivors with assistance in processing service-related disability claims, assistance in obtaining affordable housing, and information about health ailments associated with military service.

This bill would require the department to establish a program to fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, an academic study of mental health among women veterans in California, as specified. The bill would require the department to submit a report that summarizes the findings and recommendations of the study to the Legislature no later than June 30, 2029. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2030.

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 716 is added to the Military and Veterans
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 716. (a) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the department
- 4 shall establish a program to fund an academic study of mental

1 health among women veterans in California, to include
2 demographics and an analysis of the stressors, risk factors,
3 treatment modalities, barriers to access, suicide rate, and other
4 information deemed relevant.

5 (b) The department shall prepare and submit a report to the
6 Legislature, no later than June 30, 2029, that summarizes the
7 findings and recommendations of the study pursuant to subdivision
8 (a). The report shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795
9 of the Government Code.

10 (c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030,
11 and as of that date is repealed.