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AB-1401 Veterans: student financial aid. (2015-2016)

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Assembly Bill No. 1401

CHAPTER 254

An act to add Section 981.8 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

[Approved by Governor September 03, 2015. Filed with Secretary of State September 03, 2015.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1401, Baker. Veterans: student financial aid.

Prior law, in effect until January 1, 2012, requested the Office of the Adjutant General to, among other things, make copies of the enrollment fee waiver application of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available to each member of the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia not having a baccalaureate degree. Prior law also requested the Office of the Adjutant General to assist these persons in completing these forms, as needed.

This bill would reinstate these provisions and request that the Adjutant General also make available additional information, including information regarding the federal Post-9/11 GI Bill and the California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program, and contact information for veterans' educational assistance.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 981.8 is added to the Military and Veterans Code, to read:

981.8. (a) The Office of the Adjutant General is requested to annually make all of the following available to each member of the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia who does not have a baccalaureate degree:

- (1) A copy of the enrollment fee waiver application of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.
- (2) A copy of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- (3) A copy of the latest brochure or information relative to the current federal Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- (4) A copy of the latest brochure or information relative to the California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program.
- (5) The contact information for a County Veterans Service Officer or the division responsible within the California Department of Veterans Affairs for higher education or the California National Guard.

(b) The Office of the Adjutant General is requested to provide assistance as necessary to help the members complete the forms made available to them under subdivision (a).