

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 1, 2013

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 382**

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**Introduced by Senator Roth**

February 20, 2013

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An act to ~~amend Section 981.5 of~~ *add Article 8 (commencing with Section 999.60) to Chapter 6 of Division 4 of the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 382, as amended, Roth. Veterans' benefits: Department of Veterans Affairs.

*Existing law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide various benefits to veterans.*

*This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to create a California Veterans Leadership Program to connect returning veterans of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan with employment, housing, and mental health resources and tools, as specified.*

~~Existing law authorizes the California Veterans' Educational Institute, which is under the management and control of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to provide opportunities for veterans to continue their education. Existing law authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to work with authorized agencies of the United States in providing those opportunities.~~

~~This bill would make a nonsubstantive changes to this provision.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Article 8 (commencing with Section 999.60) is  
2 added to Chapter 6 of Division 4 of the Military and Veterans  
3 Code, to read:

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*Article 8. Veterans' Services*

7     999.60. (a) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall create  
8 a California Veterans Leadership Program that is a resource and  
9 referral network operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs  
10 to connect returning veterans of military operations in Iraq and  
11 Afghanistan with the employment, housing, and mental health  
12 resources and tools needed to lead productive lives and enjoy the  
13 full benefits of the society that they have served.

14     (b) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall establish centers  
15 throughout California that would provide employment, housing,  
16 and mental health resources and tools to veterans in one physical  
17 location.

18     (c) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall assist a veteran  
19 until he or she has both a job and a place to live.

20     (d) The Department of Veterans Affairs may adopt rules as  
21 necessary to implement this section.

22     ~~SECTION 1. Section 981.5 of the Military and Veterans Code~~  
23 ~~is amended to read:~~

24     ~~981.5. The department may cooperate and confer with~~  
25 ~~authorized agencies of the United States in carrying out this article.~~