



SB 411-

State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award Act

SUMMARY

SB 411 establishes the State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award Act to provide state militia members, once they reach the age of 50, an award of \$100 per month for life if they have served the state for 10 years.

BACKGROUND

State militias go back to the early days of California.

The California State Military Reserve (CSMR) is the state's militia, or defense force. The mission of the CSMR is to provide an adequately trained and organized state military reserve force under the exclusive control of the Governor.

There are more than 1,200 volunteer CSMR members serving the state.

In addition to performing military duties as the Governor directs, CSMR members assist civil authorities during domestic emergencies, helping with public safety. Furthermore, CSMR members support the California National Guard and assume critical state duties of the National Guard when the Guard is called into federal service.

At the same time, CSMR members are considered uncompensated state employees, except when called to emergency State Active Duty.

EXISTING LAW

Congress authorizes the creation of state military forces.

California establishes the CSMR as its state military force, under which the Governor is authorized to organize and maintain military forces as the Governor may deem necessary to defend the security of the state.

The CSMR is composed of commissioned officers, qualified citizens, and immigrants who have declared their intention to become citizens.

One incentive for CSMR members is the Good Conduct Medal, which is awarded to those who have provided faithful and exact performance of duty, created efficiency through capacity to produce desired results, and whose behavior has demonstrated that he or she deserves emulation.

THE SOLUTION

SB 411 establishes the State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award Act, which will provide an award of \$100 per month for life to CSMR members who have completed 10 years of state service and reach the age of 50. In doing so, SB 411 acknowledges the important contributions of the state militia to the State of California and its citizens and provides an incentive for CSMR members to continue to serve the state honorably.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown at this time.

SPONSOR

National Guard Association of California

SUPPORT

American Legion-Department of California
AMVETS-Department of California
California Association of County Veterans Service Officers
California State Commanders Veterans Council
Military Officers Association of America-California Council of Chapters
Vietnam Veterans of America-California State Council

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