

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: Original
POSITION: Oppose

BILL NUMBER: AB 2661
AUTHOR: M. Salas

BILL SUMMARY: California National Guard: Mental Health: Combat Troops

This bill would require the California National Guard to develop a comprehensive and ongoing mental health assessment program for every California National Guard soldier who has been deployed to a combat zone.

FISCAL SUMMARY

According to the California Military Department (CMD), this measure would require millions of dollars to implement. This bill does not provide an appropriation, therefore CMD would be required to shift resources from other high priority programs or request additional General Fund resources to fulfill the requirements of this measure.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is opposed to this bill because it would result in additional state costs which are not included in the Governor's 2010-11 Budget proposal.

This bill would require the California National Guard to develop a comprehensive and ongoing mental health assessment program for every California National Guard soldier who has been deployed to a combat zone.

We note that under the direction of a full-time Director of Mental Health, CMD currently operates state and federal mental health programs for CMD soldiers. We further note that the 2009 Budget Act includes Proposition 63, Mental Health Services Act funding to implement the Behavioral Outreach Liaison Program to support the mental health needs of CMD soldiers.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)								Fund Code
	(Dollars in Thousands)								
	SO	LA	CO	PROP	FC	FC	FC	FC	
8940/Military Dpt	SO	No						See Fiscal Summary	0001

Analyst/Principal (0212)J. Osborn	Date	Assistant Program Budget Manager Z. Theodorovic	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

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