

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Washington, D.C. - The Veterans Education Project (VEP) is happy to announce that California's proposed state legislation AB 1340 and 1343 are no longer being considered by the legislature. Earlier this year VEP released a legal analysis of the legislation being considered by the state of California which found the proposed legislation to be unconstitutional. VEP is proud to have fought on behalf of Veterans and protecting their right to choose how to use their earned benefits.

The Executive Director for VEP, Daniel Elkins, stated, "California's Ab 1340 and 1343 is detrimental to the members of VEP and the Soldiers and Airmen it represents. The legislation restricts educational choice based on past performance of non-Veterans and is a step in the wrong direction." If enacted, the legislation would limit Student Veterans' ability to use their benefits at a school of their choice, by forcing schools to turn away Student Veterans even if the Schools are approved by regional and nationally recognized accrediting bodies that meet all the necessary federal requirements. In addition, legal analysis has found that this proposed legislation may not be applied equitably and likely conflicts with federal law.

VEP wants to thank the many representatives and their offices for being willing to meet with us and consider our concerns. Thank you for hearing us and the voices of the over 400 thousand men and women of the National Guard. We applaud the California legislature for showing their commitment to protecting Veteran's benefits by abandoning these problematic bills.

VEP works to advance the interests of over a million Soldiers, Airmen, their families, retirees, and survivors. Reflecting the spirit of America in over 3,000 communities across the nation, the men and women of the National Guard serve to defend their nation from threats abroad as well as to respond to natural and manmade disasters in their home state.

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