



REEB GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2025

Contact: Seth Reeb
Reeb Government Relations
Email: sethr@water-warrior.com

CALIFORNIA VETERAN ADVOCACY ACHIEVES HISTORIC MILESTONE FOR RETIRED VETERANS AND THEIR SURVIVING SPOUSES WITH SIGNING OF STATE BUDGET

Sacramento, CA – California veteran advocacy groups, retired veterans, and their surviving spouses are celebrating a significant achievement as Governor Gavin Newsom officially signed the 2025-26 State Budget, providing a new benefit for this community. The approved budget notably includes a groundbreaking first step in state income tax exemption for military retirement pay and surviving spouses, demonstrating California's commitment to honoring its veteran community.

This landmark legislation exempts up to \$20,000 annually in military retirement pay and Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) payments from state income taxes, offering crucial financial relief to thousands of retired veterans and surviving spouses across California. Until now, California had been the sole state to fully tax military retirement benefits, placing additional financial strain on military retirees residing in the state.

“Today marks a transformative step for California's retired veterans and their families,” stated Seth Reeb of Reeb Government Relations. “The adoption of this tax exemption demonstrates our state’s renewed commitment to supporting those who served our nation with dedication and valor.”

Furthermore, the state budget allocates dedicated funding for deferred maintenance projects at veterans' homes across California, significantly enhancing living conditions and ensuring the continued safety and comfort of veterans residing in these facilities.

Fred Green, Chairman of the California State Commanders Veterans Council (CSCVC) emphasized, “The passage of the budget reflects a meaningful shift in California values to retain our veterans and surviving spouses into our workforce. We are grateful for the efforts of Assemblymember James Ramos, Governor Newsom, Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo, Senator Bob Archuleta, and the California Legislature for prioritizing these critical veteran-focused investments as a step in the right direction”.

The CSCVC and RGR extend sincere appreciation to Governor Newsom, state legislative leadership, and all who supported and contributed to this historic achievement.

For more information, please contact:

Seth Reeb
Reeb Government Relations
Email: sethr@water-warrior.com