

SB 1455 (BLOCK) PUPIL ENROLLMENT: MILITARY DEPENDENTS

POSITION: The Chamber's Board of Directors voted to SUPPORT AB 1455 on August 25, 2016.

STATUS: SB 1455 was introduced by Senator Marty Block February 19, 2016. The bill passed out of the Senate and Assembly, and was ordered back to the Senate on August 11, 2016.

AT-A-GLANCE

If passed, SB 1455 would allow active military families transferred to an installation in California to register their children for public school, courses, and specialized programs remotely. Upon receiving military orders, families can begin the enrollment process which gives school districts and military families a needed jump start to plan for the educational needs of these families.

SUMMARY

California is home to more than 30 major military installations. Under current law, military families who are transferred to the state of California aren't able to register their children in high school courses, enroll in specialized academic programs, or enter into charter or magnet school lotteries until they are physically located within the school district.

SB 1455 would allow active military families transferred to an installation in California to register their children for public school, courses, and specialized programs remotely.

ANALYSIS

Military and veteran support in the San Diego region remains a top priority of the Chamber. SB 1455 would provide children of military families' equal access to education by allowing registration and enrollment to happen remotely. Missing school registration and enrollment deadlines has the ability to negatively affect the chances children of active service members have to graduate on time.

Although there may be minor, reimbursable costs associated with the mandate that school districts electronically accept enrollment applications, the Senate Appropriations Committee anticipates no significant costs associated with the bill. SB 1455 is in line with Governor Brown's Military Council's recommendation for state agencies "to identify ways to strengthen educational opportunities for children of military families."

SUPPORT

Association of California School Administrators
Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson
United States Marine Corps, Brigadier General, Edward D. Banta

OPPOSITION

None known