



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 8164



Offered by:

REP. BOYD, 50th Dist.

SEN. CABRERA, 17th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 914

File No. 249

Cal. No. 358

(As Amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A")

**"AN ACT CONCERNING HMONG LAOTIAN SPECIAL GUERILLA
UNITS WHICH SERVED IN THE KINGDOM OF LAOS."**

1 Strike section 3 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

2 "Sec. 3. Section 27-118 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

4 (a) When any veteran or member, as defined in subsection (g) of this
5 section, dies, not having sufficient estate to pay the necessary expenses
6 of the veteran's or member's last sickness and [burial] funeral expenses,
7 as determined by the commissioner after consultation with the probate
8 court for the district in which the veteran or member resided, the state
9 shall pay the sum of one thousand eight hundred dollars toward such
10 funeral expenses. [, and the burial]

11 (b) Burial shall be in some cemetery or plot not used exclusively for
12 the burial of the pauper dead. [, and the same amount shall be paid if

13 the body is cremated, but no]

14 (c) No amount shall be paid for [the] funeral expenses [for burial or
15 cremation] unless claim therefor is made within one year from the date
16 of death, except that in cases of death occurring abroad, such claim may
17 be made within one year after the remains of such veteran or member
18 have been interred in this country. No provision of this section shall
19 prevent the payment of the sum [above named for the burial of any
20 person, otherwise entitled to the same,] under subsection (a) of this
21 section for funeral expenses on account of [such] the burial of such
22 veteran or member being made outside the limits of this state.

23 (d) Upon satisfactory proof by the person who has paid or provided
24 for the funeral [or burial expense] expenses to the commissioner of the
25 identity of the deceased veteran, the time and place of the deceased's
26 death and burial and the approval thereof by the commissioner, [said]
27 the sum [of one thousand eight hundred dollars] under subsection (a)
28 of this section shall be paid by the Comptroller to the person who has
29 paid the funeral [or burial expense or, upon assignment by such person,
30 to the funeral director who has provided the funeral] expenses.

31 (e) (1) Upon satisfactory proof by the person who has paid or
32 provided for the funeral expenses to the commissioner of the identity of
33 the deceased member, the time and place of the deceased member's
34 death and burial and the approval thereof by the commissioner, the sum
35 under subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the Comptroller to
36 the person who has paid the funeral expenses.

37 (2) The person who has paid or provided for the funeral expenses
38 shall provide to the commissioner (A) an affidavit stating (i) when the
39 deceased member served, (ii) where the deceased member served, (iii)
40 the unit in which the deceased member served, and (iv) the capacity in
41 which the deceased member served; (B) any available corroborating
42 witness affidavits; (C) any available official documentation of service;
43 and (D) any other documents supporting the affidavit.

44 (f) Whenever the Comptroller has lawfully paid any sum toward the

45 funeral expenses of [the burial of] any deceased veteran or member and
 46 it afterwards appears that the deceased left any estate, the Comptroller
 47 may present a claim on behalf of the state against the estate of such
 48 deceased veteran or member for the sum so paid, and the claim shall be
 49 a preferred claim against such estate and shall be paid to the Treasurer
 50 of the state. The commissioner, upon the advice of the Attorney General,
 51 may make application for administration upon the estate of any such
 52 deceased veteran or member if no other person authorized by law
 53 makes such application within sixty days after such payment has been
 54 made by the Comptroller.

55 (g) As used in this section, (1) "veteran" means any person [(1)] (A)
 56 honorably discharged from, or released under honorable conditions
 57 from active service in, the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, or
 58 [(2)] (B) with a qualifying condition, as defined in said section, who has
 59 received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from active
 60 service in the armed forces; (2) "member" means any person who served
 61 in the Hmong Laotian special guerilla units, which units served in the
 62 United States secret war in the Kingdom of Laos during the Vietnam
 63 War; and (3) "funeral expenses" means (A) the cash advances paid by
 64 the funeral director and the cost of funeral services and funeral
 65 merchandise, (B) the cost of burial, cremation or disposition, and (C) the
 66 cost of publication of an obituary. "Funeral merchandise" includes, but
 67 is not limited to, alternative containers, caskets, urns, vaults and outer
 68 burial containers."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 3	October 1, 2021	27-118