

**SOLANO COUNTY  
Legislative Committee Meeting**

**Committee**  
Supervisor Erin Hannigan (Chair)  
Supervisor Linda J. Seifert

**Staff**  
Michelle Heppner

**February 2, 2015  
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Solano County Administration Center  
Sixth Floor Conference Center, Room 6003  
675 Texas Street  
Fairfield, CA 94533**

**AGENDA**

- I. **Public Comment** (Items not on the agenda)
- II. **Update from Solano County Legislative Delegation (Legislative representatives)**  
Updates to include proposed or already introduced legislation.
- III. **Federal Legislative Update (Waterman & Associates)**
- IV. **State Legislative Update and consider making a recommendation for a position on legislation (Paul Yoder)**

**Action Items:**

Health & Social Services

[AB 50 \(Mullin D\)](#) Nurse-Family Partnership.

Solid Waste

[AB 45 \(Mullin D\)](#) Household hazardous waste.

Veterans

[AB 171 \(Irwin D\)](#) Department of Veterans Affairs: veterans' services.

- V. **Next Meeting** – March 2, 2015
- VI. **Adjourn**

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 50**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Mullin**

December 1, 2014

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An act to amend Section 123492 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to perinatal care.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 50, as introduced, Mullin. Nurse-Family Partnership.

Existing law establishes the Nurse-Family Partnership program, which is administered by the State Department of Public Health, to provide grants for voluntary nurse home visiting programs for expectant first-time mothers, their children, and their families. Under existing law, a county is required to satisfy specified requirements in order to be eligible to receive a grant.

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to develop a means to leverage public and private dollars to substantially expand the scale of the Nurse-Family Partnership in California, in accordance with specified findings. The bill would revise the requirements relating to the award and use of Nurse-Family Partnership grants, including eliminating a requirement for nurse home visitors and supervisors to receive certain training in effective home visitation techniques.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:

1 (a) In 2014, the Legislature passed Assembly Concurrent  
2 Resolution No. 155 by Assembly Member Raul Bocanegra,  
3 recognizing that research over the last two decades in the evolving  
4 fields of neuroscience, molecular biology, public health, genomics,  
5 and epigenetics reveals that experiences in the first few years of  
6 life build changes into the biology of the human body which, in  
7 turn, influence the person’s physical and mental health over his or  
8 her lifetime.

9 (b) On May 3, 2012, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. issued  
10 Executive Order B-19-12, establishing the “Let’s Get Healthy  
11 California Task Force” to develop a 10-year plan for improving  
12 the health of Californians, controlling health care costs, promoting  
13 personal responsibility for individual health, and advancing health  
14 equity.”

15 (c) The task force identified several priorities, including a subset  
16 for “Healthy Beginnings,” which include reducing infant deaths,  
17 increasing vaccination rates, reducing childhood trauma, and  
18 reducing adolescent tobacco use.

19 (d) The final report of the task force states “the challenge going  
20 forward is to identify evidence-based interventions and quicken  
21 the pace of uptake across the state,” in order to meet the ambitious  
22 goals in the Governor’s directive.

23 (e) In addition to reducing healthcare costs, the Nurse-Family  
24 Partnership has demonstrated proven outcomes addressing factors  
25 that contribute to toxic stress and made measurable progress  
26 towards many of the goals identified by the task force.

27 (f) The Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based,  
28 community health program that improves pregnancy outcomes,  
29 improves child health and development, and improves economic  
30 self-sufficiency.

31 (g) Multiple peer-reviewed, randomized, controlled trials and  
32 longitudinal followup studies have clearly demonstrated the  
33 efficacy of the Nurse-Family Partnership programs, through  
34 significant sustained results, in achieving these goals.

35 (h) The Nurse-Family Partnership provides lifelong health and  
36 economic benefits to both mothers and children served by the  
37 program.

38 (i) These lifelong benefits have the potential to achieve  
39 substantial savings to federal, state, and local governments with  
40 respect to programs and services, including Medicaid, Child

1 Protective Services, law enforcement, special education, the  
2 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and  
3 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program,  
4 among others. These savings far exceed the costs of implementing  
5 the Nurse-Family Partnership program.

6 (j) Twenty-one California counties currently operate a  
7 Nurse-Family Partnership program. Only a fraction of potentially  
8 eligible recipients are receiving these highly beneficial and  
9 cost-effective services.

10 (k) However, if California were to provide these services to  
11 significantly more eligible first-time mothers, the state could see  
12 population-wide health and economic benefits that would carry  
13 over to future generations.

14 (l) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to develop a  
15 means to leverage public and private dollars to substantially expand  
16 the scale of the Nurse-Family Partnership in California, beginning  
17 with regions and populations with the greatest need.

18 SEC. 2. Section 123492 of the Health and Safety Code is  
19 amended to read:

20 123492. The department shall develop a grant application and  
21 award grants on a competitive basis to counties for the startup,  
22 continuation, and expansion of the program established pursuant  
23 to Section 123491. To be eligible to receive a grant for purposes  
24 of that section, a county shall agree to *do* all of the following:

25 (a) Serve through the program only pregnant, low-income  
26 women who have had no previous live births. Notwithstanding  
27 subdivision (b) of Section 123485, women who are juvenile  
28 offenders or who are clients of the juvenile system, *with no history*  
29 *of prior live births*, shall be deemed eligible for services under the  
30 program.

31 (b) Enroll women in the program while they are still pregnant,  
32 before the 28th week of gestation, and preferably before the 16th  
33 week of gestation, and continue those women in the program  
34 through the first two years of the child's life.

35 (c) Use as home visitors only registered nurses who have been  
36 licensed in the state.

37 (d) Have nurse home visitors undergo training according to the  
38 program and follow the home visit guidelines developed by the  
39 Nurse-Family Partnership program.

- 1 (e) Have nurse home visitors specially trained in *the*
- 2 *Nurse-Family Partnership guidelines* for prenatal care and early
- 3 child development.
- 4 (f) Have nurse home visitors follow a visit schedule keyed to
- 5 the developmental stages of pregnancy and early childhood.
- 6 (g) Ensure that, to the extent possible, services shall be rendered
- 7 in a culturally and linguistically competent manner.
- 8 (h) Limit a nurse home visitor’s caseload to no more than 25
- 9 active families at any given time.
- 10 (i) ~~Provide for~~ For every eight nurse home visitors, *provide* a
- 11 full-time nurse supervisor who holds at least a bachelor’s degree
- 12 in nursing and has substantial experience in community health
- 13 nursing.
- 14 ~~(j) Have nurse home visitors and nurse supervisors trained in~~
- 15 ~~effective home visitation techniques by qualified trainers.~~
- 16 ~~(k)~~
- 17 (j) Have nurse home visitors and nurse supervisors trained in
- 18 the method of assessing early infant development and parent-child
- 19 interaction in a manner consistent with the program.
- 20 ~~(t)~~
- 21 (k) Provide data on operations, results, and expenditures in the
- 22 formats and with the frequencies specified by the department.
- 23 ~~(m)~~
- 24 (l) Collaborate with other home visiting and family support
- 25 programs in the community to avoid duplication of services and
- 26 complement and integrate with existing services to the extent
- 27 practicable.
- 28 ~~(n)~~
- 29 (m) Demonstrate that adoption of the Nurse-Family Partnership
- 30 program is supported by a local governmental or
- 31 government-affiliated community planning board, decisionmaking
- 32 board, or advisory body responsible for assuring the availability
- 33 of effective, coordinated services for families and children in the
- 34 community.
- 35 ~~(o)~~
- 36 (n) Provide cash or in-kind matching funds in the amount of
- 37 100 percent of the grant award.
- 38 ~~(p)~~

- 1     (*o*) Prohibit the use of moneys received for the program as a
- 2     match for grants currently administered by the department.

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**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 45**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Mullin**

December 1, 2014

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An act relating to hazardous waste.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 45, as introduced, Mullin. Household hazardous waste.

Existing law authorizes public agencies to operate curbside household hazardous waste collection facilities, door-to-door household hazardous waste collection programs, and household hazardous waste residential pickup services, and specifies conditions for the transportation of household hazardous waste.

This bill would express the Legislature's intent to enact legislation that would establish curbside household hazardous waste collection programs, door-to-door household hazardous waste collection programs, and household hazardous waste residential pickup services as the principal means of collecting household hazardous waste and diverting it from California's landfills and waterways.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) Household hazardous waste is creating environmental,
- 4 health, and workplace safety issues. Whether due to unused
- 5 pharmaceuticals, batteries, medical devices, or other disposable

1 consumer items, effective and efficient disposal remains an  
2 extraordinary challenge.

3 (2) State and local efforts to address disposal of these items  
4 have been well intended, but ultimately these piecemeal and  
5 truncated approaches have not proved effective. These approaches  
6 fragment the collection of household hazardous waste and move  
7 collection away from the closest and most practical point of  
8 disposal: the consumer’s residence.

9 (3) A number of cities in California are already using curbside  
10 household hazardous waste collection programs, door-to-door  
11 household hazardous waste collection programs, and household  
12 hazardous waste residential pickup services as mechanisms for  
13 collecting and disposing of many commonly used household items  
14 for which disposal has been the subject of state legislation or local  
15 ordinances. The waste disposal companies and local governments  
16 that have implemented these programs and services have found  
17 them to be successful and inexpensive.

18 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that  
19 would establish curbside household hazardous waste collection  
20 programs, door-to-door household hazardous waste collection  
21 programs, and household hazardous waste residential pickup  
22 services as the principal means of collecting household hazardous  
23 waste and diverting it from California’s landfills and waterways.

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**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 171**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Irwin  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Frazier, Mathis, and Salas)**

January 22, 2015

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An act to amend Section 972.1 of, and to add Section 972.3 to, the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 171, as introduced, Irwin. Department of Veterans Affairs: veterans' services.

Existing law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to disburse funds, appropriated to the department for the purpose of supporting county veterans service officers pursuant to the annual Budget Act, on a pro rata basis, to counties that comply with certain conditions.

This bill would continuously appropriate the sum of \$5,600,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs to be available for allocation to counties to fund the activities of county veterans service officers, as specified. The bill would require the department, no later than July 1, 2016, to develop an allocation formula based upon performance standards that encourage innovation and reward outstanding service by county veterans service officers, and would require those continuously appropriated moneys to be allocated in accordance with that formula, as specified. The bill would also delete obsolete provisions and would make conforming changes.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:  
3 (a) The recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan are creating an  
4 entirely new generation of veterans who may be eligible for federal  
5 veterans benefits because of their war service and their physical  
6 and mental conditions.  
7 (b) Californians make up to 10 percent of the federal military  
8 forces used in these conflicts. Furthermore, the California National  
9 Guard and California-based reserve units have contributed  
10 significantly to these current conflicts.  
11 (c) Many of these returning California veterans are not aware  
12 of the federal and state benefits that are available to them.  
13 (d) Additionally, it is estimated that in California there may be  
14 over two million veterans, and their widows or widowers, who are  
15 unaware that they may be eligible for pensions from the federal  
16 government based upon their, or their spouses', past military  
17 service in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or the Gulf War.  
18 (e) California's county veterans service officers are the initial  
19 local point of contact for claimants accessing the United States  
20 Department of Veterans Affairs.  
21 (f) The costs of maintaining county veterans service officers  
22 are shared from county general funds and state reimbursement to  
23 the counties. In 1997, in order to track performance, the Legislature  
24 enacted and the Governor signed into law Senate Bill 608, enacted  
25 as Chapter 318 of the Statutes of 1997, which required the  
26 California Department of Veterans Affairs to annually report the  
27 amount of monetary benefits paid to veterans by the federal  
28 government that were attributable to the assistance of county  
29 veterans service officers. Senate Bill 608 also required the  
30 Department of Finance to consider an increase in the annual budget  
31 for county veterans service officers of up to \$5 million, if approved  
32 in the annual budget process. In 2009, the Legislature enacted and  
33 the Governor signed into law Senate Bill 419 enacted as Chapter  
34 183 of the Statutes of 2009, which raised this amount to \$11  
35 million, if approved in the annual budget process.

1 (g) As a result of this annual reporting, by the end of 2013, it  
2 had been determined that from 1995 to 2013, inclusive, the state  
3 had cumulatively budgeted \$41.4 million for its share of the cost  
4 of the county veterans service officers. As a result of this  
5 investment, county veteran service officers were able to assist local  
6 veterans in obtaining \$4.1 billion, in new federal moneys. This is  
7 a return of about \$98 for every \$1 the state allocates to county  
8 veterans service officers. Furthermore, the \$4.1 billion only reflects  
9 the actual monetary benefits qualified for in a given year. The  
10 monetary benefits qualified for in prior years are not tracked, yet  
11 the veterans and their dependents may continue to receive those  
12 benefits for the rest of their lives. Added to this stellar return on  
13 the state's investment, but not counted in the annual reporting, are  
14 the Medi-Cal cost avoidance savings incurred as a result of county  
15 veterans service officers qualifying and shifting veterans away  
16 from Medi-Cal and into the appropriate federal veterans program.

17 (h) The county veterans service officers had accomplished all  
18 of this without ever reaching the allowable state budget allocation  
19 of \$11 million, set in 2009. To date, the county veterans service  
20 officers have not received more than \$5.6 million per year from  
21 the state.

22 (i) It is critical that the county veterans service officers receive  
23 a steady stream of funding because there continues to be a large  
24 number of underserved veterans and their dependents who are not  
25 aware of the federal benefits available to them as a result of their  
26 military service. Studies from other states have shown that  
27 increases in county veterans service officers have resulted in larger  
28 amounts of federal moneys to veterans. These new federal moneys  
29 and benefits are paid directly from the United States Department  
30 of Veterans Affairs to the qualifying veteran or their dependent  
31 and are used in the local economy.

32 SEC. 2. Section 972.1 of the Military and Veterans Code, as  
33 amended by Section 3 of Chapter 401 of the Statutes of 2012, is  
34 amended to read:

35 ~~972.1. (a) The sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)~~  
36 ~~is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Department~~  
37 ~~of Veterans Affairs for allocation, during the 1989-90 fiscal year,~~  
38 ~~for purposes of funding the activities of county veterans service~~  
39 ~~officers pursuant to this section. Funds for allocation in future~~  
40 ~~years shall be as provided in the annual Budget Act.~~

1 (b)

2 972.I. (a) Funds shall be disbursed each fiscal year on a pro  
3 rata basis to counties that have established and maintain a county  
4 veterans service officer in accordance with the staffing level and  
5 workload of each county veterans service officer under a formula  
6 based upon performance that shall be developed by the Department  
7 of Veterans Affairs for these purposes.

8 (1) For the purposes of this section, “workload unit” means a  
9 specific claim activity that is used to allocate subvention funds to  
10 counties, which is approved by the department, and performed by  
11 county veterans service officers.

12 (2) For the purposes of this subdivision, the department, by June  
13 30, 2013, shall develop a performance-based formula that will  
14 incentivize county veterans service officers to perform workload  
15 units that help veterans access federal compensation and pension  
16 benefits and other benefits, in order to maximize the amount of  
17 federal money received by California veterans.

18 (e)

19 (b) The department shall annually determine the amount of new  
20 or increased monetary benefits paid to eligible veterans by the  
21 federal government attributable to the assistance of county veterans  
22 service officers. The department shall, on or before October 1 of  
23 each year, prepare and transmit its determination for the preceding  
24 fiscal year to the Department of Finance and the Legislature. The  
25 Department of Finance shall review the department’s determination  
26 in time to use the information in the annual Budget Act for the  
27 budget of the department for the next fiscal year.

28 (d)

29 (c) The department shall conduct a review of the  
30 high-performing and low-performing county veterans service  
31 officers and based on this review, shall produce a best-practices  
32 manual for county veterans service officers by June 30, 2013.

33 ~~(e) (1) The Legislature finds and declares that 50 percent of~~  
34 ~~the amount annually budgeted for county veterans service officers~~  
35 ~~is approximately eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000). The~~  
36 ~~Legislature further finds and declares that it is an efficient and~~  
37 ~~reasonable use of state funds to increase the annual budget for~~  
38 ~~county veterans service officers in an amount not to exceed eleven~~  
39 ~~million dollars (\$11,000,000) if it is justified by the monetary~~

1 ~~benefits to the state’s veterans attributable to the effort of these~~  
2 ~~officers.~~

3 ~~(2) It is the intent of the Legislature, after reviewing the~~  
4 ~~department’s determination in subdivision (c), to consider an~~  
5 ~~increase in the annual budget for county veterans service officers~~  
6 ~~in an amount not to exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000), if~~  
7 ~~the monetary benefits to the state’s veterans attributable to the~~  
8 ~~assistance of county veterans service officers justify that increase~~  
9 ~~in the budget.~~

10 ~~(d) The Legislature finds and declares that it is an efficient and~~  
11 ~~reasonable use of state funds to increase the annual budget for~~  
12 ~~county veterans service officers up to a total of eleven million~~  
13 ~~dollars (\$11,000,000) if it is justified by the monetary benefits to~~  
14 ~~the state’s veterans attributable to the effort of these officers.~~

15 ~~(f)~~

16 ~~(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016,~~  
17 ~~and as of that date is repealed.~~

18 SEC. 3. Section 972.1 of the Military and Veterans Code, as  
19 amended by Section 2 of Chapter 401 of the Statutes of 2012, is  
20 amended to read:

21 ~~972.1. (a) The sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)~~  
22 ~~is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Department~~  
23 ~~of Veterans Affairs for allocation, during the 1989–90 fiscal year,~~  
24 ~~for purposes of funding the activities of county veterans service~~  
25 ~~officers pursuant to this section. Funds for allocation in future~~  
26 ~~years shall be as provided in the annual Budget Act.~~

27 ~~(b)~~

28 ~~972.1. (a) Funds shall be disbursed each fiscal year on a pro~~  
29 ~~rata basis to counties that have established and maintain a county~~  
30 ~~veterans service officer in accordance with the staffing level and~~  
31 ~~workload of each county veterans service officer under a formula~~  
32 ~~based upon performance that shall be developed by the Department~~  
33 ~~of Veterans Affairs for these purposes, and that shall allocate~~  
34 ~~county funds in any fiscal year for county veterans service officers~~  
35 ~~in an amount not less than the amount allocated in the 1988–89~~  
36 ~~fiscal year, five million six hundred thousand dollars (\$5,600,000).~~

37 ~~(c)~~

38 ~~(b) The department shall annually determine the amount of new~~  
39 ~~or increased monetary benefits paid to eligible veterans by the~~  
40 ~~federal government attributable to the assistance of county veterans~~

1 service officers. The department shall, on or before October 1 of  
 2 each year, prepare and transmit its determination for the preceding  
 3 fiscal year to the Department of Finance and the Legislature. The  
 4 Department of Finance shall review the department’s determination  
 5 in time to use the information in the annual Budget Act for the  
 6 budget of the department for the next fiscal year.

7 ~~(d) (1) The Legislature finds and declares that 50 percent of~~  
 8 ~~the amount annually budgeted for county veterans service officers~~  
 9 ~~is approximately eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000). The~~  
 10 ~~Legislature further finds and declares that it is an efficient and~~  
 11 ~~reasonable use of state funds to increase the annual budget for~~  
 12 ~~county veterans service officers in an amount not to exceed eleven~~  
 13 ~~million dollars (\$11,000,000) if it is justified by the monetary~~  
 14 ~~benefits to the state’s veterans attributable to the effort of these~~  
 15 ~~officers.~~

16 ~~(2) It is the intent of the Legislature, after reviewing the~~  
 17 ~~department’s determination in subdivision (e), to consider an~~  
 18 ~~increase in the annual budget for county veterans service officers~~  
 19 ~~in an amount not to exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000), if~~  
 20 ~~the monetary benefits to the state’s veterans attributable to the~~  
 21 ~~assistance of county veteran service officers justify that increase~~  
 22 ~~in the budget.~~

23 *(c) The Legislature finds and declares that it is an efficient and*  
 24 *reasonable use of state funds to increase the annual budget for*  
 25 *county veterans service officers up to a total of eleven million*  
 26 *dollars (\$11,000,000) if it is justified by the monetary benefits to*  
 27 *the state’s veterans attributable to the effort of these officers.*

28 (e)

29 (d) This section shall become operative January 1, 2016.

30 SEC. 4. Section 972.3 is added to the Military and Veterans  
 31 Code, to read:

32 972.3. (a) Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government  
 33 Code, the sum of five million six hundred thousand dollars  
 34 (\$5,600,000) is hereby continuously appropriated from the General  
 35 Fund each fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, to the Department  
 36 of Veterans Affairs to be available for allocation to counties to  
 37 fund the activities of county veterans service officers pursuant to  
 38 subdivision (a) of Section 972.1.

39 (b) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall, no later than July  
 40 1, 2016, develop an allocation formula based upon performance

1 standards that encourage innovation and reward outstanding service  
2 by county veterans service officers. Moneys appropriated for this  
3 purpose shall be allocated each fiscal year in accordance with that  
4 formula among those counties that have established and maintained  
5 a county veterans service officer pursuant to Section 970.

6 SEC. 5. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
7 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within  
8 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into  
9 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

10 Approximately 50 percent of the current General Fund  
11 appropriation in support of county veteran service offices  
12 operations expires on June 30, 2015. In order to provide for  
13 continuity of services critical to the successful reintegration of  
14 California's veterans, to increase California's utilization of veteran  
15 benefits, and to ensure veteran's claims for benefits are processed  
16 in a timely manner, it is necessary that this act take effect  
17 immediately.

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