

# **Veterans Services Ex-Officio Report**

**Dec. 2024**

## **1. EDC Veteran Services Staffing Updates:**

- We are still in the hiring process to fill the new Office Assistant position. We will be conducting more interviews soon. Hopefully we will be able to extend an offer after this round of interviews.

## **2. Future Training 2025:**

- VSR I Christopher Diggins and myself will be attending the California Association of County Veteran Service Officers (CACVSO) winter training conference from Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> 2025. During that time if you need anything from the Veteran Services Office you will need to speak with my Sr. VSR Julie Limbaugh Johnston or VSR II Tisha Holy.

## **3. Legislative Update:**

- CA Assemblymember James Ramos has reintroduced legislation, AB53, that would exempt Military retirements and Survivors Benefit Plan (SBP) from state taxes. This is Ramos's 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt at providing tax relief to retired military personnel and his 10<sup>th</sup> legislative effort. The bill titled, **Personal income taxes: exclusion: Military Services Retirement and Surviving Spouse Benefit Payment Act** would amend the Personal Income Tax Law beginning 01-01-2027 and continue through 01-01-2037. The bill proposes to exclude from taxable income both retirement pay from the federal government for service in the uniformed services and annuity payments from the Department of Defense Survivor Benefit Plan.
- California is the only state in the union that currently taxes the retirement of our military personnel.

## **4. Monthly Contact Report Nov. 2024:**

- 326- Phone calls
- 91- Scheduled appointments
- 190-Walk-in visitors

## **5. South Lake Tahoe Veterans Services office updates:**

- VSR II Tisha Holy has continued to provide exceptional service to the veterans located in the South Lake Tahoe area despite having to perform all services via telephone appointments.

**This concludes my report.**