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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**ORIGINAL DATE** 02/15/10  
**LAST UPDATED** 02/17/10    **HB** 309/HCPACS/aSJC

**SPONSOR** HCPAC

**SHORT TITLE** Disposition of Veteran's Cremains    **SB** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANALYST** Chabot

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Senate Judiciary Committee Amendment

The Senate Judiciary Committee amendment to House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee substitute for House Bill 309 strikes the section granting immunity to funeral service practitioners regarding release of information to determine status of a veteran, spouse of a veteran or dependent child of a veteran.

#### Synopsis of HCPAC Substitute

House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee substitute for House Bill 309 requires a funeral service practitioner to make a "reasonable effort" within 72 hours to determine if a deceased person is a veteran, spouse of a veteran or the dependent child of a veteran. If the veteran status cannot be determined, the practitioner may allow the national cemetery administration of the federal Veterans' Affairs Department to have access to information on the deceased. If the practitioner determines the deceased is veteran, the person legally authorized to order the cremation and final disposition of the remains of the deceased ("authorizing agent") of the veteran status and that the individual may be eligible for burial in a national cemetery. The practitioner will hold any cremains for at least two years. If the cremains are not claimed after that date, the practitioner will notify the authorizing agent. If there is no response, the practitioner will contact any veterans' organization to arrange for the dispositions of the cremains. The practitioner is authorized to release information to the Veterans' Affairs Department or any veteran's organization and will not be liable for the release of the information.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

These procedures will allow for proper recognition of a veteran, spouse or children of a veteran by burial in a national cemetery.

GAC/mt:mew