

Date of Hearing: May 12, 2021

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Lorena Gonzalez, Chair

AB 1002 (Choi) – As Amended April 15, 2021

Policy Committee:	Higher Education	Vote:	11 - 0
	Military and Veterans Affairs		11 - 0

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: No Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the California State University (CSU), and requests the University of California (UC), to develop and periodically update policies to award military personnel and veterans course credit.

Specifically, this bill requires the system office of CSU, in collaboration with the Academic Senate of the CSU, and requests the system office of UC, by September 1, 2022, to develop a consistent policy to award course credit to military personnel and veterans who have an official Joint Services Transcript (JST), subject to academic and faculty review. It also requires each campus of the CSU, and requests UC, by December 31, 2023, to have in effect a policy consistent with the policy developed by their respective system offices. In addition, the bill directs the CSU, and requests the UC, to periodically review and adjust their policies to align them with other public postsecondary educational institutions. Lastly, the bill requires each campus of the CSU, and requests UC, to post on its website its most recent policy.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Minor ongoing GF cost pressures to CSU and UC system offices and campuses to periodically review and adjust their policies and post their policies to their websites. (The CSU and UC already have policies largely consistent with the requirements of this bill, as described in more detail below.)

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Background.** An official JST provides a member of the military or veteran with a description of their military education, training and work history. A JST can be evaluated by educational institutions to award these individuals with prior credit for learning towards their college degrees. SB 1071 (Roth), Chapter 560, Statutes of 2018, required the CCC Chancellor's Office to develop a consistent policy for awarding course credit for prior military education, training and work history. The bill also required each community college district to have a policy consistent with the policy developed by the chancellor's office.

Currently, both UC and CSU have policies permitting the evaluation of JSTs largely consistent with the requirements of this bill. This bill codifies the requirements of these policies and also requires the UC and CSU to periodically review and adjust their respective policies. It also requires the UC and CSU to make public disclosures of their policies.

- 2) **Prior Legislation.** AB 2494 (Choi), of the 2019-20 Legislative Session, was similar to this bill. The bill was held in the Senate Education Committee.

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