



ANTONIO VAZQUEZ
MEMBER, THIRD DISTRICT
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 13, 2026

To: Sally J. Lieber, Chair
Ted Gaines, Vice Chair
Mike Schaefer, Board Member, Fourth District
Malia M. Cohen, State Controller

From: Antonio Vazquez, Board Member, Third District

Re: May 27, 2026, Board Meeting Item – SB 888 (Seyarto) Disabled Veteran Disability Exclusion.

The purpose of this agenda item is to present Senate Bill (SB) 888 (Seyarto) before the Board for consideration and possible support. In line with previous bills brought before the Board, this item would provide the Board Members, stakeholders, and the public with an opportunity to hear from, and ask questions of, the bill author. The Board may choose to vote to support, oppose, or remain neutral on the language in the bill presented or to request further information from the author or any speakers or from the Executive Director and management as appropriate.¹

SB 888 (Seyarto) Property Taxation: disabled veterans' exemption: household income.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB888

Summary: California law provides for various exemptions for property taxation, including the veterans' and disabled veterans' exemptions. Under existing law, the disabled veterans' exemption exempts from taxation part of the full value of a property that constitutes the principal residence of a veteran, the veterans' spouse, or the veteran and spouse jointly. The exempted part of the full value of the residence does not exceed \$100,000, or \$150,000, if the household income of the claimant is under \$40,000, adjusted for inflation. This bill would exclude service-connected disability payments from the definition of "household income" for purposes of the disabled veterans' exemption.

¹ This Memo is not a substitute for any formal legislative analysis on this bill that may be presented to the Board and the Legislature by Board of Equalization staff at a future date. Government Code Section 15600(j) prohibits Board Members from interfering with or influencing the process of "legislative analysis, revenue analysis, or any other form of technical assistance requested by the Governor or the Legislature." A vote of support for bills from the majority of the Board Members does not, should not, and is not intended to, in any way interfere or influence the legislative analysis produced by the Board.

Status: SB 888 was introduced on January 14, 2026. It was placed in the Senate Appropriations Committee on April 27 and is set for a hearing on May 14, 2026.

Relation to the Board of Equalization: Under the State Constitution and Revenue & Taxation Code, the BOE is responsible for the review, equalization, or adjustment of property tax assessment, including the disabled veterans' exemption. The BOE also provides guidance and instruction to county assessors in the performance of their assessment duties. SB 888 would make substantive changes to the disabled veterans' exemption, which could require interpretation and guidance by the BOE. Therefore, the bill is highly relevant to the Board's purview.

Bill Analyses: As of the date of this Memo, the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee, the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, and Senate Appropriations Committee have published legislative analyses on the bill. The BOE has also published its legislative analysis on the bill.²

Fiscal Impact: According to the BOE legislative analysis, this bill would reduce annual property tax revenues by \$48 million.

In the interest of providing all Board Members with the opportunity to have knowledge of legislation to be considered prior to the Board meeting at which the bills will be considered, I intend to raise this bill for formal support at the May 27, 2026, Board meeting. I fully support this bill in concept, as it provides tax relief for disabled veterans whose income may exceed the income limit due to the receipt of service-connected disability payments.

Sincerely,



ANTONIO VAZQUEZ, Member
Board of Equalization, 3rd District

Mr. Juan Flores, Chief Deputy, Office of Member Antonio Vazquez
Mr. Douglas Winslow, Chief Deputy, Office of Chair Sally J. Lieber
Mr. Matt Cox, Chief Deputy, Office of Vice Chair Ted Gaines
Mr. Cody Petterson, Chief Deputy, Office of Member Mike Schaefer
Mr. Hasib Emran, Deputy State Controller
Ms. Yvette Stowers, Executive Director

² The BOE Legislative Analysis is available at: <https://www.boe.ca.gov/legdiv/pdf/0888sb011426rd.pdf>. The Senate Committee Analyses are available at: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billAnalysisClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB888.