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AB 306 – Military funerals for indigent/homeless veterans

Purpose: This legislation is a small way of saying thank you and showing our respect to the veterans who might otherwise be forgotten. It is not designed to replace existing governmental programs, only to enhance the programs that already exist.

- Allows recognized veterans organizations (e.g. Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Marine Corps League, the American Legion, among others) to claim a deceased, indigent/homeless veteran and perform a dignified military funeral on their behalf
- Charitable and religious organizations are currently empowered to claim bodies and provide these funerals. This would simply add veterans to the list of recognized groups.
- This bill will also allow a veterans group to apply for a plot at a state veterans cemetery on behalf of the veteran.
- No fiscal impact on the state or local budgets.
- A number of other states have passed similar legislation. They include Montana, Missouri, California, among others.