Assemblymember Rudy Salas has remained committed to ensuring the well-being of our veterans and has demonstrated that again in his second term in the State Assembly. He is serving on the Assembly Committee on Veteran's Affairs for a second term and began the 2015-16 legislative session supporting a number of important pieces of legislation.

**2015-2016 Budget**

For California veterans, the 2015–2016 budget includes an additional $3 million to support County Veteran Service Officers and establishes 36 permanent positions within the Department of Veterans Affairs to address the continued federal claims backlog.

**VETERAN FUNDING & ACCOUNTABILITY BILLS**

Assemblymember Salas co-authored AB 171 that increased annual funding for the California Department of Veterans Affairs to $5.6 million dollars. The funding will help CVSO’s reach under-served veterans to assist them in accessing the federal benefits available to them.

He also co-authored AB 255 which created the Office of Internal Audits for Veterans Affairs. The chief auditor will be responsible for California veterans home, veterans farm and home purchase program, and other department programs and functions.

**VETERAN JOBS BILLS**

Assemblymember Salas has had several of his bills signed into law that ensure jobs for veterans. AB 114 awarded $15 million dollars for job training, with preference given to Veterans and disadvantaged youth. AB 556 allows CVSO’s to work with local law enforcement. AB 556 protects veterans from employment discrimination based on past or current service.

He also co-authored AB 930 which established the Work for Warriors Program. To support jobs for military families Assemblymember Salas co-authored AB 186 which offers military spouses and domestic partners licensed in another state with a 12-month temporary license to practice their profession in California.
To ensure veterans have access to higher educations, Assemblymember Salas co-authored AB 13 and SB 290 which both allow veterans who are new to the State of California pay in-state tuition at state colleges and universities for the time it takes to become a resident of the state.

To ensure that veterans have access to health care, Assemblymember Salas co-authored AB 614 which allows a veteran with 70 percent or more service disability receiving care in a veterans home to have the costs of the care reimbursed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

He also co-authored ACR 36 that urges all superior courts to establish veterans treatment courts or veterans treatment review calendars to assist veterans with service-related mental health issues.

To extend benefits to more military service men and women, Assemblymember Salas co-authored SB 720 which gives all federal military reservists and California National Guard service members the same relief from having to pay interest on the accumulated principal or interest of a deferred financial obligation as active duty military members.

Assemblymember Salas also co-authored SB 725 which allows veteran organizations to maintain their lease on buildings leased to them by a city and county government as long as they do not violate the terms of the lease, or abandon the building.

To protect access to housing for veterans, Assemblymember Salas co-authored AB 639 which transferred $600 million in bonds to fund affordable housing for veterans and their families.

He also co-authored AJR 38 which requests Congress to pass, and the President to sign into law, SB 1281 and HR 2654, to protect veterans and military members from housing and employment discrimination.

"Our veterans accepted the responsibility to defend America and uphold our values when duty called and it is our responsibility to defend them when they return."

- Asm. Rudy Salas

For more information on Veteran Services and other state related matters, please visit my website at: www.assembly.ca.gov/Salas or contact my office:

Kern County
(661) 866-7300
VA Outpatient Clinic
(661) 632-1800
Veterans Assistance
Foundation
(661) 695-3636
Rebuilding Together Kern
(Provides Home Repairs to Veterans)
(661) 703-1731
AMVETS of California
120 N. M Street
Tulare, CA 93274
(877) 526-1339
(559) 688-3407
Habitat for Humanity
PO Box 3267
Bakersfield, California
93385-3267
(661) 861-8449

Kings County
Veterans Service Office
1400 W. Lacey Blvd, Law
Building #4
Hanford CA, 93230
(559) 852-2660
Military Veterans Coalition
Government Center
Kings Multi-Purpose Room
Meets 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 2pm
Kings County Veterans
Employment Committee
124 N. Irwin St.
Hanford CA, 93230
(559) 585-3551
Disabled American
Veterans
3163 E. McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA
(559) 924-3907
Naval Air Station
Lemoore
700 Avenger Ave
Lemoore CA, 93246
(559) 998-0100
Fleet Reserve
Association-Lemoore
Lemoore Branch-261
788 East "D" Street
Lemoore CA, 93245