



**DATE:** January 6, 2010

**TO:** All Personnel Officers and Exam Managers

/s/ SUZANNE M. AMBROSE

**FROM:** Suzanne M. Ambrose  
Executive Officer

**SUBJECT: NEW CRITERIA FOR AWARDING VETERANS PREFERENCE POINTS  
FOR OPEN NON-PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATIONS**

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Effective January 1, 2010, Government Code Section 18978 is amended to allow disabled veterans to receive an additional 15 points and all other veterans to receive an additional 10 points when taking open, non-promotional examinations. [SB 644 (Strickland), Ch. 357, Statutes of 2009]. Prior to this change, disabled veterans were allowed an additional 10 points, and all other veterans were allowed 5 points.

The criteria for determining if the classification in question is subject to veteran's preference points have not changed. In addition, the criteria for determining if an applicant is eligible for veteran's preference points remain unchanged. The State Personnel Board is implementing the new change in the following manner:

- The law is to be applied retroactively for continuous file examinations.
- The State Personnel Board Exam System (Legacy) and ECRP System is programmed to award veteran's preference points according to the new law effective January 1, 2010.
- If the Recruitment (examination) is active and is being administered on a continuous file open non-promotional basis, all eligibles who previously received 5 and 10 points will be updated to receive 10 and 15 points accordingly.
- If a Recruitment is open non-promotional and is closed (not continuous, but dated), with an effective date on or prior to December 31, 2009, no change in the eligibles' veteran's preference points will be made.
- If a Recruitment is in progress and the list will have an effective date of January 1, 2010 or thereafter, the online system will grant veteran's preference points according to the new law.
- If a department ordered a certification on or prior to December 31, 2009, eligibles will remain on the list according to the previous law pertaining to veteran's preference points.
- If a department orders a certification on or after January 1, 2010, eligibles will be placed on the list according to the new law.

If you have questions regarding this memo or the provisions of Senate Bill 644, you may contact Gina Forman, Manager, SPB Examination Services Program, at (916) 651-6718.