

CA-2015-NG-UPDATE

(September 2015)

On August 12, 2015, California Governor Jerry Brown signed into law AB 583. This new law amends the California law protecting National Guard members on state active duty.

As amended, the California law now protects members of the National Guard of other states who have civilian jobs in California and who are called to active duty by other-state governors. This amendment is effective August 12, 2015 and is not retroactive.

For example, Ronald Reagan is a Specialist (E-4) in the Nevada Army National Guard, but his civilian job is just across the state line in California. After a major tornado causes serious damage in Las Vegas, the Nevada Governor calls Reagan to state active duty for several days, and Reagan leaves his California job for this state active duty. If this occurred prior to August 12, 2015, Reagan has no legal right to insist that his California employer reinstate him in his civilian job, at the end of this period of state active duty. If this occurred on or after August 12, 2015, Reagan's California job is protected in this scenario.

Thank you to Laura J. Crehan, Dale M. Vandehey, and their colleagues at the Defense State Liaison Office for bringing this issue to the attention of state legislators across the country.