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SENATE BILL 6695

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senators Schmidt, McAuliffe, Kohl-Welles and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/19/2006. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to tuition waivers for veterans and national guard  
2 members; and amending RCW 28B.15.621.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.15.621 and 2005 c 249 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that active military and naval veterans,  
7 reserve military and naval veterans, and national guard members called  
8 to active duty have served their country and have risked their lives to  
9 defend the lives of all Americans and the freedoms that define and  
10 distinguish our nation. The legislature intends to honor active  
11 military and naval veterans, reserve military and naval veterans, and  
12 national guard members who have served on active military or naval duty  
13 for the public service they have provided to this country.

14 (2) Subject to the limitations in RCW 28B.15.910, the governing  
15 boards of the state universities, the regional universities, The  
16 Evergreen State College, and the community colleges, may waive all or  
17 a portion of tuition and fees for the following persons:

18 (a) An eligible veteran or national guard member;

1 (b) A child and the spouse of an eligible veteran or national guard  
2 member who became totally disabled as defined in RCW 28B.15.385 while  
3 engaged in active federal military or naval service, or who is  
4 determined by the federal government to be a prisoner of war or missing  
5 in action;

6 (c) A child and the surviving spouse of an eligible veteran or  
7 national guard member who lost his or her life while engaged in active  
8 federal military or naval service. However, upon remarriage, the  
9 surviving spouse of an eligible veteran or national guard member is  
10 ineligible for a waiver under this section.

11 (3) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional  
12 universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community colleges,  
13 may waive all or a portion of tuition and fees for a military or naval  
14 veteran who is a Washington domiciliary, but who did not serve on  
15 foreign soil or in international waters or in another location in  
16 support of those serving on foreign soil or in international waters and  
17 who does not qualify as an eligible veteran or national guard member  
18 under subsection (5) of this section. However, there shall be no state  
19 general fund support for waivers granted under this subsection.

20 (4) Private vocational schools and private higher education  
21 institutions are encouraged to provide waivers consistent with the  
22 terms in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

23 (5) As used in this section "eligible veteran or national guard  
24 member" means a Washington domiciliary who was an active or reserve  
25 member of the United States military or naval forces, or a past or  
26 current national guard member called to active duty, who served or  
27 serves, as applicable, in active federal service, under either Title 10  
28 or Title 32 of the United States Code, in a war or conflict fought on  
29 foreign soil or in international waters or in another location in  
30 support of those serving on foreign soil or in international waters,  
31 and if discharged from service, has received an honorable discharge.

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