

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## E2SHB 2009

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C 129 L 18  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Providing higher education support for gold star families.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Reeves, Stonier, Riccelli, Peterson, Doglio, Jinkins, Kilduff, Lovick, Tarleton, McBride, Ormsby, Stanford, Orwall, Muri, Slatter, Ryu and Fey).

**House Committee on Higher Education**  
**House Committee on Appropriations**  
**Senate Committee on Higher Education**  
**Senate Committee on Ways & Means**  
**Senate Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development**

### **Background:**

State law requires and authorizes public institutions of higher education to grant various tuition and fee waivers. The institutions are limited in their tuition and fee waiver authority in that the total amount of tuition and fee revenue waived, exempted, or reduced may not exceed a percentage of their estimated gross operating fee revenue.

The public institutions of higher education are required to waive undergraduate tuition and fees for children and spouses of an eligible veteran or National Guard member, who as a result of serving:

- lost his or her life;
- became totally disabled; or
- is considered a prisoner of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA).

In order to be eligible for the tuition waiver, a child must be domiciled in Washington and be between the ages of 17 and 26. The spouse or domestic partner must be a Washington domiciliary, not have remarried or entered into another domestic partnership, and must use the tuition waiver within 10 years of the date of death, disability, or determination of POW or MIA status.

The child or spouse may receive a tuition waiver until he or she has earned 200 quarter credits, or the equivalent of semester credits.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Summary:**

Subject to appropriation, a \$500 annual stipend for textbooks and course materials is provided to recipients of tuition waivers received because the recipient's spouse or parent lost his or her life, became totally disabled, or is considered a POW or MIA due to serving in active duty military or the National Guard. The stipend must be equally divided among academic terms and pro-rated for part-time enrollment.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	97	0	
House	98	0	
Senate	49	0	(Senate amended)
House			(House refused to concur)
Senate	48	0	(Senate receded/amended)
House	98	0	(House concurred)

**Effective:** June 7, 2018