

ESB 5755 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on College & Workforce Development

NOT CONSIDERED 12/23/2019

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.15.621 and 2018 c 129 s 1 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The legislature finds that active military and naval
6 veterans, reserve military and naval veterans, and national guard
7 members called to active duty have served their country and have
8 risked their lives to defend the lives of all Americans and the
9 freedoms that define and distinguish our nation. The legislature
10 intends to honor active military and naval veterans, reserve military
11 and naval veterans, and national guard members who have served on
12 active military or naval duty for the public service they have
13 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 and technical colleges,
17 may waive all or a portion of tuition and fees for an eligible
18 veteran or national guard member.

19 (3) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional
20 universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community and
21 technical colleges, may waive all or a portion of tuition and fees
22 for a military or naval veteran who is a Washington domiciliary, but
23 who did not serve on foreign soil or in international waters or in
24 another location in support of those serving on foreign soil or in
25 international waters and who does not qualify as an eligible veteran
26 or national guard member under subsection (8) of this section.
27 However, there shall be no state general fund support for waivers
28 granted under this subsection.

29 (4) Subject to the conditions in subsection (5) of this section
30 and the limitations in RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards of the
31 state universities, the regional universities, The Evergreen State

1 College, and the community and technical colleges, shall waive all
2 tuition and fees for the following persons:

3 (a) A child and the spouse or the domestic partner or surviving
4 spouse or surviving domestic partner of an eligible veteran or
5 national guard member who became totally disabled as a result of
6 serving in active federal military or naval service, or who is
7 determined by the federal government to be a prisoner of war or
8 missing in action; and

9 (b) A child and the surviving spouse or surviving domestic
10 partner of an eligible veteran or national guard member who lost his
11 or her life as a result of serving in active federal military or
12 naval service.

13 (5) The conditions in this subsection (5) apply to waivers under
14 subsection (4) of this section.

15 (a) A child must be a Washington domiciliary between the age of
16 seventeen and twenty-six to be eligible for the tuition waiver. A
17 child's marital status does not affect eligibility.

18 (b) (i) A surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner must be a
19 Washington domiciliary.

20 (ii) Except as provided in (b) (iii) of this subsection, a
21 surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner has ten years from the
22 date of the death, total disability, or federal determination of
23 prisoner of war or missing in action status of the eligible veteran
24 or national guard member to receive benefits under the waiver. Upon
25 remarriage or registration in a subsequent domestic partnership, the
26 surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner is ineligible for the
27 waiver of all tuition and fees.

28 (iii) If a death results from total disability, the surviving
29 spouse has ten years from the date of death in which to receive
30 benefits under the waiver.

31 (c) Each recipient's continued participation is subject to the
32 school's satisfactory progress policy.

33 (d) Tuition waivers for graduate students are not required for
34 those who qualify under subsection (4) of this section but are
35 encouraged.

36 (e) Recipients who receive a waiver under subsection (4) of this
37 section may attend full-time or part-time. Total credits earned using
38 the waiver may not exceed two hundred fifty quarter credits, or the
39 equivalent of semester credits.

1 (f) Subject to amounts appropriated, recipients who receive a
2 waiver under subsection (4) of this section shall also receive a
3 stipend for textbooks and course materials in the amount of five
4 hundred dollars per academic year, to be divided equally among
5 academic terms and prorated for part-time enrollment.

6 (6) Required waivers of all tuition and fees under subsection (4)
7 of this section shall not affect permissive waivers of tuition and
8 fees under subsection (3) of this section.

9 (7) Private vocational schools and private higher education
10 institutions are encouraged to provide waivers consistent with the
11 terms in subsections (2) through (5) of this section.

12 (8) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
13 section.

14 (a) "Child" means a biological child, adopted child, or
15 stepchild.

16 (b) "Eligible veteran or national guard member" means a
17 Washington domiciliary who was an active or reserve member of the
18 United States military or naval forces, or a national guard member
19 called to active duty, who served in active federal service, under
20 either Title 10 or Title 32 of the United States Code, in a war or
21 conflict fought on foreign soil or in international waters or in
22 support of those serving on foreign soil or in international waters,
23 and if discharged from service, has received an honorable discharge
24 or any other discharge if the sole reason for discharge is due to
25 gender or sexuality.

26 (c) "Totally disabled" means a person who has been determined to
27 be one hundred percent disabled by the federal department of veterans
28 affairs.

29 (d) "Washington domiciliary" means a person whose true, fixed,
30 and permanent house and place of habitation is the state of
31 Washington. "Washington domiciliary" includes a person who is
32 residing in rental housing or residing in base housing. In
33 ascertaining whether a child or surviving spouse or surviving
34 domestic partner is domiciled in the state of Washington, public
35 institutions of higher education shall, to the fullest extent
36 possible, rely upon the standards provided in RCW 28B.15.013.

37 (9) As used in subsection (4) of this section, "fees" includes
38 all assessments for costs incurred as a condition to a student's full
39 participation in coursework and related activities at an institution
40 of higher education.

1 (10) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional
2 universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community and
3 technical colleges shall report to the higher education committees of
4 the legislature by November 15, 2010, and every two years thereafter,
5 regarding the status of implementation of the waivers under
6 subsection (4) of this section. The reports shall include the
7 following data and information:
8 (a) Total number of waivers;
9 (b) Total amount of tuition waived;
10 (c) Total amount of fees waived;
11 (d) Average amount of tuition and fees waived per recipient;
12 (e) Recipient demographic data that is disaggregated by distinct
13 ethnic categories within racial subgroups; and
14 (f) Recipient income level, to the extent possible."

15 Correct the title.

EFFECT: (1) Expands the definition of veteran or National Guard member for the purposes of a tuition waiver to those with an honorable discharge or any other discharge if the sole reason for discharge is due to gender or sexuality.

(2) Removes the reference to the DD 214 form for discharges.

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