

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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HOUSE DRH60392-LH-169A (03/23)

Short Title: Tuition Waiver/Some Military Family Members. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Vinson.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO WAIVE TUITION AT A CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA OR A COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR CERTAIN PERSONS IF THE PERSON IS A RELATIVE OF A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO IS DECEASED OR DISABLED.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 115B-1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115B-1. Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this Chapter:

- (1) Armed services. – The term has the same definition as G.S. 116-143.3(a)(2).
- ~~(1)~~(1a) Employer. – The State of North Carolina and its departments, agencies, and institutions; or a county, city, town, or other political subdivision of the State.
- (2) Firefighter or volunteer firefighter. – The same as provided in G.S. 58-86-25 for "eligible firemen".
- (3) Law enforcement officer. – An employee or volunteer of an employer who possesses the power of arrest, who has taken the law enforcement oath administered under the authority of the State as prescribed by G.S. 11-11, and who is certified as a law enforcement officer under the provisions of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes or certified as a deputy sheriff under the provisions of Chapter 17E of the General Statutes. "Law enforcement officer" also means the sheriff of the county.
- (4) Permanently and totally disabled as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty. – A person: (i) who as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker

1 suffered a disabling injury while in active service or training for active
2 service, (ii) who at the time of active service or training was a North
3 Carolina resident, and (iii) who has been determined to be permanently
4 and totally disabled for compensation purposes by the North Carolina
5 Industrial Commission.

6 (5) Rescue squad worker. – The same as provided in G.S. 58-86-30 for
7 "eligible rescue squad worker".

8 (6) Survivor. – Any person whose parent or spouse: (i) was a law
9 enforcement officer, a firefighter, a volunteer firefighter, or a rescue
10 squad worker, (ii) was killed while in active service or training for
11 active service or died as a result of a service-connected disability, and
12 (iii) at the time of active service or training was a North Carolina
13 resident. The term does not include the widow or widower of a law
14 enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or a rescue squad
15 worker if the widow or widower has remarried.

16 (7) Tuition. – The amount charged for registering for a credit hour of
17 instruction and shall not be construed to mean any other fees or
18 charges or costs of textbooks."

19 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115B-2(a) reads as rewritten:

20 "(a) The constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and the
21 community colleges as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2) shall permit the following persons to
22 attend classes for credit or noncredit purposes without the required payment of tuition:

23 (1) Legal residents of North Carolina who have attained the age of 65.

24 (2) Any person who is the survivor of a law enforcement officer,
25 firefighter, volunteer firefighter, member of the armed forces, or
26 rescue squad worker killed as a direct result of a traumatic injury
27 sustained in the line of duty.

28 (3) The spouse of a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer
29 firefighter, member of the armed services, or rescue squad worker who
30 is permanently and totally disabled as a direct result of a traumatic
31 injury sustained in the line of duty.

32 (4) Any child, if the child is at least 17 years old but not yet 23 years old,
33 whose parent is a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer
34 firefighter, member of the armed services, or rescue squad worker who
35 is permanently and totally disabled as a direct result of a traumatic
36 injury sustained in the line of duty. However, a child's eligibility for a
37 waiver of tuition under this Chapter shall not exceed: (i) 48 months, if
38 the child is seeking a baccalaureate degree, or (ii) if the child is not
39 seeking a baccalaureate degree, the number of months required to
40 complete the educational program to which the child is applying."

41 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law, and applies to the
42 2005-2006 academic year and each subsequent academic year.