

SENATE, No. 2004

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits four-year public institution of higher education from charging tuition and fees to student who is spouse or dependent child of disabled veteran.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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1 AN ACT concerning costs of enrollment in a four-year public
2 institution of higher education for certain students and
3 supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
4 Statutes.

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6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
7 of New Jersey:

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9 1. a. No four-year public institution of higher education shall
10 charge tuition or fees to the spouse or dependent child of a disabled
11 veteran provided that:

12 (1) the spouse or child has been accepted to pursue a course of
13 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in
14 good standing at that institution;

15 (2) the spouse or child has applied for all available State student
16 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and
17 scholarships for which the spouse or child is eligible; and

18 (3) the spouse or child has applied for tuition benefits available
19 through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for which
20 the spouse or child is eligible under the "Post-9/11 Veterans
21 Educational Assistance Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-252
22 (38 U.S.C. s.3301 et seq.).

23 b. The State shall reimburse each institution of higher
24 education for the costs of waiving tuition and fees pursuant to the
25 provisions of this act.

26 c. As used in this act: "disabled veteran" means a person who
27 has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States
28 and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions
29 other than dishonorable, and who has experienced a total and
30 permanent disability as certified by the United States Department of
31 Veterans Affairs as a consequence of military service.

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33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill prohibits four-year public institutions of higher
39 education from charging tuition or fees to the spouse or dependent
40 child of a disabled veteran. Under the bill, the spouse or dependent
41 child of a disabled veteran is eligible to attend a four-year public
42 institution of higher education tuition-free and fee-free provided
43 that:

44 (1) the spouse or child has been accepted to pursue a course of
45 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in
46 good standing at that institution;

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1 (2) the spouse or child has applied for all available State student
2 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and
3 scholarships for which the spouse or child is eligible; and

4 (3) the spouse or child has applied for tuition benefits available
5 through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for which
6 the spouse or child is eligible under the "Post-9/11 Veterans
7 educational Assistance Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-252
8 (38 U.S.C. s.3301 et seq.).

9 The bill directs the State to reimburse each institution of higher
10 education for the costs of waiving tuition and fees pursuant to the
11 bill's provisions.