By the Committee on Military Affairs and Domestic Security; and Senator Baker

583-1899-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to educational opportunities
3	for dependent children of servicemembers or
4	civilian personnel classified as prisoners of
5	war or missing in action; amending s. 295.015,
6	F.S.; expanding the provision of educational
7	opportunity at state expense for children of
8	servicemembers, or civilian personnel captured
9	while serving with the consent or authorization
10	of the United States Government, who are
11	classified as prisoners of war or missing in
12	action; providing an effective date.
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14	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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16	Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 295.015, Florida
17	Statutes, is amended to read:
18	295.015 Children of prisoners of war and persons
19	missing in action; education
20	(1) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the
21	state to provide educational opportunity at state expense for
22	dependent children either of whose parents <u>has been</u> <del>became</del>
23	classified as <u>a prisoner</u> prisoners of war or missing in action
24	in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States during
25	the Korean Conflict or during the Vietnam Era, as defined in
26	s.~1.01(14), or <u>in the capacity of</u> civilian personnel captured
27	while serving with the consent or authorization of the United
28	States Government. Such educational opportunity shall be
29	provided until such time as the parent so classified is
30	returned alive or the parent's remains are recovered; provided
31	that, in order to be eligible, the parents of such children

1	must have been $\frac{1}{2}$ year $\frac{1}{2}$ residents of the state for $\frac{1}{2}$
2	years next preceding the event that led to the parent's
3	classification as a prisoner of war or missing in action by
4	the United States Government their application for the
5	benefits hereof and must be permanent residents of the state
6	on the effective date of this act.
7	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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9	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
10	COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR Senate Bill 0412
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12	This committee substitute reduces the Florida residency
13	requirement from 5 years to 1 year prior to an event resulting in said resident being declared a prisoner of war or missing in action. It also deletes statute language that could be
14	interpreted as limiting the eligibility for educational benefits to only those who were Florida residents at the time
15	the act was originally passed in 1972.
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