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An act relating to student withdrawal from courses due to military service; requiring rules and policies by district school boards, community college district boards of trustees, and university boards of trustees; providing that a student shall not suffer academic or financial penalties; authorizing the refund of fees; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Each district school board, community college district board of trustees, and university board of trustees shall establish, by rule and pursuant to guidelines of the Florida Board of Education, policies regarding currently enrolled students who are called to, or enlist in, active military service. Such policies shall provide that any student enrolled in a postsecondary course or courses at an area technical center, a public community college, a public college, or a state university shall not incur academic or financial penalties by virtue of performing military service on behalf of our country. Such student shall be permitted the option of either completing the course or courses at a later date without penalty or withdrawing from the course or courses with a full refund of fees paid. If the student chooses to withdraw, the student's record shall reflect that the withdrawal is due to active military service.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.