

By the Committee on Education Appropriations and
Representatives Garcia, Harrington, Hogan and Mahon

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student withdrawal from
3 courses due to certain military service;
4 requiring rules and policies by district school
5 boards, community college district boards of
6 trustees, and university boards of trustees;
7 providing that a student shall not suffer
8 academic or financial penalties; authorizing
9 the refund of fees; providing an effective
10 date.

11
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

13
14 Section 1. Each district school board, community
15 college district board of trustees, and university board of
16 trustees shall establish, by rule and pursuant to guidelines
17 of the Florida Board of Education, policies regarding
18 currently enrolled students who are members of the National
19 Guard, active or reserve forces, who are called to or enlist
20 in active military service. Such policies shall provide that
21 any student enrolled in a postsecondary course or courses at
22 an area technical center, a public community college, a public
23 college, or a state university shall not incur academic or
24 financial penalties by virtue of performing military service.
25 Such student shall be permitted the option of either
26 completing the course or courses at a later date without
27 penalty or withdrawing from the course or courses with a full
28 refund of fees paid. If the student chooses to withdraw, the
29 student's record shall reflect that the withdrawal is due to
30 active military service.

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