

By Senator Fasano

11-134A-07

1                                   A bill to be entitled

2           An act relating to postsecondary education fee

3           waivers; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing

4           that, in order to receive the waiver of

5           undergraduate tuition at a state university or

6           community college, a recipient of a combat

7           decoration must be in good standing as to

8           repaying undergraduate student loans received

9           before the decoration was bestowed; requiring

10          the state to repay student loans outstanding

11          after a waiver has been granted to a decorated

12          combat veteran; providing an appropriation;

13          providing an effective date.

14

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

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17           Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 1009.26, Florida

18 Statutes, is amended to read:

19           1009.26 Fee waivers.--

20           (9) A state university or community college shall

21 waive undergraduate tuition for each recipient of a Purple

22 Heart or another combat decoration superior in precedence who:

23           (a) Is enrolled as a full-time, part-time, or

24 summer-school student in an undergraduate program that

25 terminates in a degree or certificate;

26           (b) Is currently, and was at the time of the military

27 action that resulted in the awarding of the Purple Heart or

28 other combat decoration superior in precedence, a resident of

29 this state; ~~and~~

30           (c) Is in good standing regarding the repayment of any

31 undergraduate student loans that he or she was awarded before

1 receiving the combat decoration; however. the state must pay  
2 the balance due on such loans on the date the tuition waiver  
3 is first granted; and

4 ~~(d)(e)~~ Submits to the state university or the  
5 community college the DD-214 form issued at the time of  
6 separation from service as documentation that the student has  
7 received a Purple Heart or another combat decoration superior  
8 in precedence.

9  
10 Such a waiver for a Purple Heart recipient or recipient of  
11 another combat decoration superior in precedence shall be  
12 applicable for 110 percent of the number of required credit  
13 hours of the degree or certificate program for which the  
14 student is enrolled.

15 Section 2. The sum of \_\_\_\_\_ is appropriated from the  
16 General Revenue Fund to the Department of Veterans' Affairs to  
17 be used during the 2007-2008 fiscal year for the purpose of  
18 repaying outstanding undergraduate student loans made to  
19 decorated combat veterans as provided in this act.

20 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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23 SENATE SUMMARY

24 Provides that, in order to receive the waiver of  
25 undergraduate tuition at a state university or community  
26 college, a recipient of a combat decoration must be in  
27 good standing as to repaying undergraduate student loans  
28 received before the decoration was bestowed. Requires the  
29 state to repay student loans outstanding after a waiver  
30 has been granted to a decorated combat veteran. Provides  
31 an appropriation.