

By Senator Fasano

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to tuition waivers; amending s. 1009.26,
3 F.S.; requiring state universities and community colleges
4 to waive a percentage of the in-state tuition rate for
5 veterans who meet specified criteria; providing a
6 percentage cap on the number of required credit hours for
7 which a tuition waiver may be received; providing for
8 funding; providing an effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Subsection (11) is added to section 1009.26,
13 Florida Statutes, to read:

14 1009.26 Fee waivers.--

15 (11) (a) A state university or community college shall waive
16 50 percent of the in-state tuition rate for a person who:

17 1. Is an honorably discharged veteran;

18 2. Has received a campaign or service medal denoting
19 service in a combat theater of operations, including, but not
20 limited to, service in Iraq and Afghanistan and service in
21 support of the Global War on Terrorism;

22 3. Is enrolled as a full-time, part-time, or summer-school
23 student in an undergraduate program that terminates in a degree
24 or certificate;

25 4. Is a resident of this state at the time he or she
26 applies for the waiver and was a resident of this state at the
27 time of the military action that resulted in the awarding of the
28 campaign or service medal; and

29 5. Submits to the state university or to the community

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30 college the DD-214 form issued at the time of separation from
31 service as documentation that the student has received a Global
32 War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, or
33 Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

34 (b) A waiver under this subsection may be applied to 110
35 percent of the number of required credit hours of the degree or
36 certificate program for which the student is enrolled.

37 (c) Waivers under this subsection shall be funded through
38 the legislative budget process and state universities and
39 community colleges are not responsible for paying the costs of
40 such waivers.

41 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.