LC001778

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

AN ACT

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- TUITION FOR COVERED INDIVIDUALS UNDER A POST 9/11 GI BILL AND MONTGOMERY GI BILL

Introduced By: Senator Maryellen Goodwin

Date Introduced: March 24, 2015

Referred To: Senate Education

(Human Services)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The General Laws are hereby amended by adding thereto the following 2 title: 3 **TITLE 30.3** TUITION FOR COVERED INDIVIDUALS UNDER A POST 9/11 GI BILL AND 4 5 **MONTGOMERY GI BILL** 6 30.30.3-1. In-state tuition eligibility -- (a) A person who is a covered individual as 7 described in subsection (b) of this section is entitled to pay tuition and fees at an institution of 8 higher education at the rates provided for Rhode Island residents without regard to the length of 9 time the person has resided in this state if the person files with the institution at which the person 10 intends to register a letter of intent to establish residence in this state and resides in this state 11 while enrolled in the institution. 12 (b) A covered individual is a person who: (1) Is eligible for benefits under the federal 13 Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (38 U.S.C. § 3301, et seq.) or any other federal law authorizing educational benefits for veterans; (2) Is the spouse of a person described 14 by subdivision (1); or (3) Is a child of a person described by subdivision (1) who is twenty-five 15 (25) years of age or younger on the first day of the semester or other academic term for which the 16 person is registering, except that the Rhode Island board of education by rule shall prescribe 17 18 procedures by which a person who suffered from a severe illness or other debilitating condition

- 1 that affected the person's ability to use the benefit provided by this section before reaching that
- 2 age may be granted additional time to use the benefit corresponding to the time the person was
- 3 <u>unable to use the benefit because of the illness or condition.</u>
- 4 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- TUITION FOR COVERED INDIVIDUALS UNDER A POST 9/11 GI BILL AND MONTGOMERY GI BILL

This act would allow all qualifying veterans, their spouses, and their children under twenty-five (25) years old to pay resident tuition and fees at state colleges upon filing of a letter of intent to establish residence and reside in the state while enrolled in that college.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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