

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 317

BY SENATOR FOIL

TUITION. Provides in-state residency status for public postsecondary tuition fees to certain members and veterans of the military. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:2137 and to repeal R.S. 17:1997.1, 1997.2, and 2136, relative to residency requirements and public postsecondary tuition fees for residents of other states; to provide relative to resident classifications of members and veterans of the United States Armed Forces and their dependents; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:2137 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2137. Tuition fees for members of the armed forces, ~~and their dependents, and for~~ certain other individuals ~~who have served in the armed forces;~~ resident classification

A. Any individual who is permanently stationed in Louisiana as a member of the United States Armed Forces who enrolls as a student at any public postsecondary institution shall be classified as a resident for tuition purposes and shall qualify for resident tuition fees.

B. Any individual who is a honorably discharged veteran or other individual eligible to receive educational benefits administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, through any provision of the United

1 States Code, who enrolls as a student at any public postsecondary institution
2 and remains continuously enrolled, and who lives in Louisiana shall be classified
3 as a resident for tuition purposes and shall qualify for resident tuition fees.

4 A: C.(1) A child or spouse of a member of the ~~armed forces of the~~ United
5 States Armed Forces stationed in Louisiana on active duty shall be entitled to
6 resident classification for tuition purposes at any ~~state college or university~~ public
7 postsecondary institution without regard to length of time of residency in the state.

8 B: (2) A child or spouse of a member of the ~~armed forces of the~~ United States
9 Armed Forces who has been assigned to duty elsewhere immediately following
10 assignment to duty in Louisiana or who has been honorably discharged while
11 assigned to duty in Louisiana shall be entitled to resident classification for tuition
12 purposes at any ~~state college or university~~ public postsecondary institution for as
13 long as the child or spouse, as the case may be, continuously resides in Louisiana
14 after the Louisiana duty assignment of the parent or spouse.

15 C: D. The burden of proving entitlement to the benefit to this Section shall
16 lie with the applicant ~~therefor~~.

17 D: ~~Any individual who was permanently stationed in Louisiana as a member~~
18 ~~of any branch of the United States Armed Forces, including his dependents, who~~
19 ~~enrolls as a student at any state owned and operated college or university, shall be~~
20 ~~classified as a resident for tuition purposes and shall qualify for resident tuition fees~~
21 ~~at any such state owned and operated college or university, provided that the~~
22 ~~individual has been continuously residing in Louisiana after being honorably~~
23 ~~discharged from the United States Armed Forces.~~

24 E: (1) ~~Except for tuition charged to a veteran eligible for benefits under the~~
25 ~~Yellow Ribbon Program pursuant to a Yellow Ribbon Agreement between a public~~
26 ~~postsecondary education institution and the United States Department of Veteran~~
27 ~~Affairs under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 33, effective for the 2012-2013 academic year and~~
28 ~~thereafter, a student who is enrolled in or is applying for enrollment in a Louisiana~~
29 ~~public college or university and who physically resides in Louisiana for the duration~~

1 of his enrollment in a state public institution of postsecondary education, who has
2 served in the armed forces of the United States as defined by 10 U.S.C. 101(a)(4),
3 and who also meets the requirements of Paragraph (2) of this Subsection is entitled
4 to resident classification for tuition purposes without regard to length of time of
5 residency in the state.

6 (2) In addition to the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the
7 student shall meet at least one of the following conditions to qualify for resident
8 classification for tuition amount purposes:

9 (a) Has served on active duty for a continuous period of no less than two
10 years, and received an Honorable Discharge, as verified by a United States
11 Department of Defense Form 214, within one year of enrolling in a Louisiana public
12 college or university.

13 (b) Is currently serving in a Reserve Component of the armed forces of the
14 United States as defined by 10 U.S.C. 101(c) and as verified by a memorandum from
15 the student's commanding officer.

16 (c) Has been assigned a service-connected disability by the United States
17 Department of Veterans Affairs.

18 (3) **E.** The Board of Regents and each public postsecondary education
19 management board shall adopt rules and guidelines necessary to implement the
20 provisions of this ~~Subsection~~ **Section**.

21 Section 2. R.S. 17:1997.1, 1997.2, and 2136 are hereby repealed.

22 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
23 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
24 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
25 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
26 effective on the day following such approval.

