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## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Edwards

HB No. 500

**Abstract:** Relative to veterans who are students at La. public colleges and universities, provides for the award of educational credits for courses that are part of the student's military service and that meet certain academic standards. Also limits tuition and mandatory attendance fee charges for a student at a La. public college or university who is not a resident of the state and who is a veteran to not more than amounts charged La. residents. Requires each public postsecondary education management board to adopt certain policies (by not later than Jan. 1, 2012) as well as rules, regulations, and procedures to implement proposed law beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year continuing thereafter.

Proposed law requires each public postsecondary education management board to adopt (by not later than Jan. 1, 2012) a policy requiring each institution under the board's supervision and management to award educational credits to a student who is also a veteran for courses that are part of the student's military training or service and that meet the standards of the American Council on Education (or equivalent standards) for awarding academic credit.

Also specifies (notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary) that no student at a La. public college or university who is not a resident of the state and who is a veteran shall be charged or required to pay any tuition or mandatory attendance fee in an amount in excess of that which is charged students who are residents of the state.

Defines the word "veteran" for purposes of proposed law. Also requires each board to adopt necessary rules, regulations, and procedures to implement proposed law effective beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year and continuing thereafter.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351(E))