

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 500

BY REPRESENTATIVES EDWARDS, ARMES, CARMODY, CARTER, CHANDLER,
CHANEY, HARDY, RICHARDSON, AND SEABAUGH

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Provides certain educational benefits for veterans who are students at La. public colleges and universities

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3351(E), relative to the powers, duties, and functions of public
3 postsecondary education management boards; to provide for the award of
4 educational credits to a student at a public college or university who is also a veteran
5 for courses that are part of the student's military training or service and that meet
6 certain academic standards; to provide definitions; to provide for implementation,
7 including for the adoption of certain policies and necessary rules, regulations, and
8 procedures; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §3351. General powers, duties, and functions of college and university boards

12 * * *

13 E.(1) In addition to any other power, duty, and function authorized by this
14 Section, each board shall adopt, by not later than January 1, 2012, a policy requiring
15 each institution under the board's supervision and management to award educational
16 credits to a student at the institution who is also a veteran for courses that are part of
17 the student's military training or service and that meet the standards of the American
18 Council on Education or equivalent standards for awarding academic credit, and the
19 award of educational credit is based on the institutions's admission standards and its
20 role, scope, and mission.

1 (2) Each board shall adopt necessary rules, regulations, and procedures to
2 implement the provisions of this Subsection effective beginning with the 2012-2013
3 academic year and continuing thereafter.

4 (3) For the purposes of this Subsection, the word "veteran" means a citizen
5 of the United States or a resident alien who has been released from military service
6 under a condition other than dishonorable and who meets at least one of the
7 following conditions:

8 (a) Has engaged in active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

9 (b) Is a member of the national guard or is a reserve enlistee called to active
10 duty for purposes other than training.

11 (c) Was a cadet or midshipman at a United States Armed Forces service
12 academy

13 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
14 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
15 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
16 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
17 effective on the day following such approval.

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)]

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. Requires each public postsecondary education management board to adopt certain polices (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 and the award of credit is based on the institution's admission standards and its role, scope, and mission.

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))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Relative to conditions for the award of educational credit, adds proposed law provision that the award also be based on the institution's admission standards and its role, scope, and mission.
2. Deletes proposed law provision limiting tuition and mandatory fee charges for a student who is not a resident of the state and who is a veteran.
3. Changes definition of "veteran" for proposed law purposes.