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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

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DIGEST

SB 140 Original 2018 Regular Session Gatti

Proposed law provides that, beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year, each public postsecondary institution shall provide an exemption for tuition and required fee charges to active duty military members who meet the institution's admission and enrollment requirements, and:

- (1) Serves full-time duty in the active military of the United States.
- (2) Entered the service at a location in this state.
- (3) Declared this state as his home of record in the manner provided by the applicable military branch.

Proposed law provides that each public postsecondary institution shall also provide an exemption for tuition and required fee charges to military veterans who meet the institution's admission and enrollment requirements, and:

- (1) Was honorably discharged from the military of the United States after serving full-time on active duty for more than four years.
- (2) Currently resides in this state.
- (3) Entered the service at a location in this state.
- (4) Declared this state as his home of record in the manner provided by the applicable military branch.

Proposed law further provides that the spouse and children of an eligible military member who is killed or permanently disabled from his service duties may also claim the exemption, provided they meet the admissions criteria of the postsecondary institution.

Proposed law provides the exemption shall cover tuition and required fee charges for not more than 150 hours of academic credit or the receipt of a degree at the associate, baccalaureate, masters, or professional level, whichever occurs first. Further provides if the military member, veteran, or dependent enrolls in more than one public postsecondary institution in the state, the exemption provided by all institutions combined shall be limited to 150 hours of academic credit.

Proposed law provides that if a student's service in the military terminates for other than an honorable discharge, or if he is placed on academic probation or withdraws from the postsecondary institution while receiving the benefits, his exemption shall be forfeited immediately and he shall

pay to the institution all charges from which he was exempted for the academic term in which his service terminated, was placed on scholastic probation, or withdrew from the postsecondary institution.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:1688)