DIGEST

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HB 167 Reengrossed	2023 Regular Session	Cox
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Abstract: Provides for a tuition and fee waiver for disabled veterans.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that a disabled veteran who does not qualify for the 100% eligibility tier under federal law relative to postsecondary education benefits shall receive an exemption in an amount equal to the remaining tuition and fees owed to the public postsecondary education institution attended after the application of federal benefits. Defines "disabled veteran" as an individual who has a service-connected disability as determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs and who is a resident of La.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that if a student qualifies for both the <u>proposed law</u> tuition waiver and a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) scholarship award, he shall receive the tuition exemption provided by <u>proposed law</u> rather than through TOPS.

(Adds R.S. 17:1688 and 5002(H))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Apply <u>proposed law</u> to all veterans with a service-related disability rather than only those with a disability classification of 100%.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove additional payments for students who qualify for TOPS in addition to the <u>proposed law</u> tuition waiver.