

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 116

BY REPRESENTATIVE EGAN

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

MILITARY AFFAIRS: Provides relative to the Louisiana Military Family Assistance Fund

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 46:122(B)(7) and (8), relative to the Louisiana Military Family Assistance
3 Fund; to expand the authorized expenditures of the fund to include indigent veteran
4 burials and indigent student benefits; to provide for a definition; and to provide for
5 related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 46:122(B)(7) and (8) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §122. Louisiana Military Family Assistance Fund

9 * * *

10 B. The money in the fund shall be used solely for the following purposes:

11 * * *

12 (7) To pay, at the discretion of the Louisiana Military Family Assistance
13 Board, burial fees and costs for deceased indigent veterans or retirees. For purposes
14 of this Section, indigent is defined as an individual that was receiving public
15 assistance, such as food stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, Medicaid,
16 disability insurance, residing in public housing, or earning less than two hundred
17 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline prior to their death.

18 (8) To pay sums necessary for expenses of eligible beneficiaries under R.S.
19 29:288, as limited by the provisions of R.S. 29:289.

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)]

HB 116 Original

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Egan

Abstract: Authorizes expenditures of the La. Military Family Assistance Fund to include indigent veteran burials and indigent student benefits.

Present law provides that money in the La. Military Family Assistance Fund shall be used solely for the following purposes:

- (1) To pay need-based claims of family members of activated military personnel or honorably discharged military personnel as authorized by the La. Military Family Assistance Board in the manner provided for in R.S. 46:123.
- (2) To provide for state administration of the program provided for in present law as determined by the board, not to exceed 5% of the total amount deposited into the fund each fiscal year.
- (3) To provide for the third party administrator's expenses in administration of the program provided for in present law, which shall not exceed 5% of the total amount deposited into the fund each fiscal year.
- (4) To pay transportation and other related costs of activated military personnel as authorized by the La. Military Family Assistance Board.
- (5) To conduct outreach activities for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- (6) To pay for educational benefits for children, spouses, and surviving spouses of veterans in accordance with R.S. 29:288.

Proposed law retains present law and further authorizes money in the fund for payment for burial fees and costs for deceased indigent veterans or retirees and for payment of sums necessary for expenses of eligible beneficiaries under present law.

(Adds R.S. 46:122(B)(7) and (8))