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## DIGEST

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HB 485 Original

2015 Regular Session

Henry Burns

**Abstract:** Requires the Bd. of Regents to establish a process for a public postsecondary education institution to be designated by the governor as a "Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus".

Proposed law requires the Board of Regents to establish a process for a public postsecondary education institution to be designated by the governor as a "Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus". Provides requirements for eligibility relative to articulation programs, fee waivers, orientation programs, deployment and readmission policies, priority class scheduling, tutoring, and workshops offered by the institutions for military veterans. Provides for application procedures for institutions interested in receiving the initial designation and requirements for the submission of renewal applications. Requires the Bd. of Regents to review the applications and to submit the applications and a report to the governor that indicates if an institution meets the eligibility requirements for initial designation. Provides that a designation applies for one year. Requires verification of renewal applications by the Bd. of Regents that an institution continues to meet the eligibility requirements to receive the designation each year. Requires certain information to be included in each renewal application.

Defines "veteran" for purposes of proposed law as a former or current member of the U.S. Armed Forces or organized militia of the several states and territories, including but not limited to a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard, Air National Guard, Reserves, State Guard, or a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, Environmental Science Services Administration, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or its predecessor, the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

(Adds R.S. 17:3138.5)