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3 HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HB554  
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8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law provides educational benefits  
9 for higher education for children of disabled and  
10 deceased veterans and prisoners of war at state  
11 colleges and universities.

12 This bill would provide that children of  
13 disabled and deceased veterans and prisoners of war  
14 attending a comprehensive transition and  
15 postsecondary program for children with  
16 intellectual disabilities at a state four-year  
17 college or university would be entitled to be  
18 included in the existing tuition reimbursement  
19 provisions for children of disabled and deceased  
20 veterans and prisoners of war.

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22 A BILL  
23 TO BE ENTITLED  
24 AN ACT  
25

26 Relating to children of disabled and deceased  
27 veterans and prisoners of war; to amend Section 31-6-2, Code

1 of Alabama 1975, and to add Section 31-6-2.1 to the Code of  
2 Alabama 1975, to provide further for educational benefits for  
3 children of disabled and deceased veterans and children  
4 otherwise eligible for educational benefits attending a  
5 comprehensive transition and postsecondary program for  
6 students with intellectual disabilities at a state four-year  
7 college or university.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9 Section 1. Section 31-6-2, Code of Alabama 1975, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "§31-6-2.

12 "For the purposes of this chapter, the following  
13 terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them by this  
14 section:

15 "(1) ARMED FORCES. ~~Such~~ The term ~~shall include~~  
16 includes the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine  
17 Corps, Space Force, and Coast Guard, ~~and such.~~ The term ~~shall~~  
18 also ~~include~~ includes the units of those branches of the  
19 services having women troops. ~~It shall also include~~ and the  
20 Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Nurse Corps.

21 "(2) COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION AND POSTSECONDARY  
22 PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES. Has the  
23 same meaning as in 20 U.S.C. § 1140.

24 "~~(2)~~ (3) HUSBAND. ~~Such term shall mean spouse~~ Spouse.

25 "~~(3)~~ (4) TUITION. Fees for instruction.

26 "~~(4)~~ (5) TUITION AND FEES. All fees known and classed  
27 as instructional fees.

1                   "~~(5) (6)~~ WIDOW. ~~Such term shall mean widow or~~  
2 ~~widower.~~ WIDOW or WIDOWER. An individual whose spouse is  
3 deceased.

4                   "~~(6) (7)~~ WIFE. ~~Such term shall mean spouse~~ Spouse."

5                   Section 2. Section 31-6-2.1 is added to the Code of  
6 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

7                   §31-6-2.1.

8                   For the purposes of this chapter, in addition to any  
9 other benefits granted under this chapter, any child of a  
10 disabled or deceased veteran or otherwise eligible for  
11 educational benefits under this chapter who is admitted to  
12 attend and attends a comprehensive transition and  
13 postsecondary program for students with intellectual  
14 disabilities at a state four-year college or university shall  
15 be eligible to receive benefits equal to the benefits provided  
16 pursuant to this chapter, to any other child eligible for  
17 educational benefits in an undergraduate course of study at a  
18 state four-year college or university under this chapter  
19 without regard as to whether the program is a degree,  
20 certificate, or non-degree program.

21                   Section 3. This act shall become effective  
22 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
23 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.