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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## HOUSE BILL NO. 386

## BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOLARSHIPS; AMENDING SECTION 33-4302, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY OF A SCHOLARSHIP OF A SPOUSE OR CHILD, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY FOR A SCHOLAR-SHIP FOR A CHILD OF A MILITARY MEMBER, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP FOR A SPOUSE OF A MILITARY MEMBER, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVES A SCHOL-ARSHIP, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, TO REVISE TERMINOLOGY, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN BENE-FITS, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO AN APPROPRIATION, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND TO PROVIDE FOR RULES; AND AMENDING SECTION 33-4302A, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE SPOUSE OR CHILD OF A PUBLIC SAFETY OF-FICER, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF A CHILD OF A PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE EL-IGIBILITY OF A SPOUSE OF A PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN BENEFITS, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO AN APPROPRIATION, TO PROVIDE FOR RULES, TO REVISE TERMINOLOGY AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 33-4302, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-4302. SCHOLARSHIPS -- STATE AID. (1) The following individuals shall be eligible for the scholarship program provided for herein:
  - (a) Any dependent spouse or child of any Idaho citizen who is a resident of the state of Idaho on or after the effective date of this act and who while such person is or was a resident of the state of Idaho, has been determined by the federal government to be a prisoner of war or missing in action; or to have died of, or become totally and permanently disabled by, injuries or wounds sustained in action in southeast Asia, including Korea, or in Iraq or in Afghanistan or who shall become so hereafter, in any area of armed conflict in which the United States is a party; and
  - (b) Any dependent spouse or child of any member of the armed forces of the United States who is stationed in the state of Idaho on military orders and who is deployed from the state of Idaho to any area of armed conflict in which the United States is a party and who has been determined by the federal government to be a prisoner of war or missing in action; or to have died of, or become totally and permanently disabled by, injuries or wounds sustained in action as a result of such deployment. Provided further, that such dependent must be a resident of the state of Idaho and must have completed secondary school or its equivalent in the state of Idaho.

- (2) (a) To be eligible for the scholarship provided for herein, a child of a military member must be a resident of the state of Idaho and must have completed secondary school or its equivalent in the state of Idaho. A child already born, or born after a military member is determined to be imprisoned or missing in action, or is killed or becomes totally and permanently disabled, shall be eligible for this scholarship;
- (b) To be eligible for the scholarship provided for herein, the spouse of a military member must be a resident of the state of Idaho and must have been married to such person at the time the military member was determined to be imprisoned or missing in action, or was killed or became totally and permanently disabled. Provided however, that in the situation of disability, the spouse must be currently married to such person.
- (3) An eliqible individual who applies for the scholarship provided for herein shall, after verification of eligibility, receive the scholarship and be admitted to attend undergraduate studies at any public institution of higher education or public professional-technical college within the state of Idaho without the necessity of paying tuition and fees therefor; such student shall be provided with books, equipment and supplies necessary for pursuit of such program of enrollment not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) per quarter, semester, intensified semester, or like educational period; such student shall be furnished on-campus housing and subsistence for each month he or she is enrolled full-time under this program and actually resides in such on-campus facility; provided, however, that such undergraduate educational benefits shall not exceed a total of thirty-six (36) months or four (4) nine (9) month periods. Provided further, that the initiation of such educational benefits shall extend for a period of ten (10) years after achieving a high school diploma or its equivalency, or for a period of ten (10) years after the event giving rise to the eligibility for the scholarship, whichever is longer.
- $(3\underline{4})$  The dependent eligible individual shall meet such other educational qualifications as such institution of higher education or professional-technical college has established for other prospective students of this state, as well as any additional educational qualifications established by the state board of education and board of regents of the university of Idaho.
- $\overline{(45)}$  Application for eligibility under this section shall be made to the state board of education and the board of regents of the university of Idaho or the state board of vocational-technical education. The board shall verify the eligibility of the <u>dependent applicant</u> and communicate such eligibility to <u>the dependent such person</u> and the affected institution or college.
- (56) Affected institutions shall in their preparation of future budgets include therein costs resultant from such tuition, fee, book, equipment, supply, housing and subsistence loss for reimbursement thereof from appropriations of provide an eligible individual with the educational benefits set forth in subsection (3) of this section. The legislature shall annually appropriate state general funds to reimburse affected institutions for all costs resultant from the educational benefits provided to an eligible individual under the provisions of this section.

(7) For the purposes of this section, a member of the armed forces of the United States is considered totally and permanently disabled if he or she is unable to perform with reasonable continuity the material duties of any gainful occupation for which he or she is reasonably fitted by education, training and experience at the time of application a current disability determination made by the United States social security administration is in effect with respect to such individual.

- (6) Applicants for the scholarship program herein prescribed shall provide institutional administrative personnel with documentation of their rights under this act.
- (8) The state board of education and board of regents of the university of Idaho may adopt rules to implement and administer the scholarship program provided for in this section.

SECTION 2. That Section 33-4302A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER DEPENDENT SCHOLARSHIPS -- STATE 33-4302A. AID. (1) Any dependent spouse or child of a full-time or part-time public safety officer, as defined in subsection (56) of this section, employed by or volunteering for the state of Idaho or for a political subdivision of the state of Idaho, which public safety officer is or was a resident of the state of Idaho at the time such officer was killed or totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty shall be admitted to attend undergraduate studies at any public institution of higher education or public professional-technical college within the state of Idaho without the necessity of paying tuition and fees therefor. Said dependents persons shall be provided by the institution or college with books, equipment and supplies necessary for pursuit of the dependent's person's chosen program of enrollment not to exceed the actual cost therefor, or five hundred dollars (\$500), whichever is less, per quarter, semester, intensified semester, or like education period. Said dependent person shall be provided with the institution or college's published normal on-campus residential facility housing and meals program for each month the dependent person is enrolled full time under this statute and continues to actually reside in such on-campus residential facility. Provided however, that the undergraduate educational benefits provided for in this section shall not exceed a total of thirty-six (36) months or four (4) nine-month periods; provided further, that such educational benefits shall not extend beyond ten (10) years following the date the dependent person receives a high school diploma, a high school equivalency diploma, a special diploma or a certificate of high school completion, or beyond the date such dependent person turns thirty (30) years old, whichever comes first.

- (2) (a) To be eligible for the scholarship provided for herein, a child of a public safety officer must be a resident of the state of Idaho and must have completed a secondary school or its equivalent in the state of Idaho. A child already born, or born after a public safety officer is killed or becomes totally and permanently disabled, shall be eligible for this scholarship.
- (b) To be eligible for the scholarship provided for herein, the spouse of a public safety officer must be a resident of the state of Idaho and must have been married to such person at the time the public safety of-

ficer was killed or became totally and permanently disabled. Provided however, that in the situation of disability, the spouse must be currently married to such person.

- (3) The dependent eligible individual shall be required to meet the educational qualifications as such institution of higher education or professional-technical college as established for other prospective students of this state, as well as any additional educational qualifications established by the state board of education and board of regents of the university of Idaho. Application for eligibility under this section shall be made to the state board of education and board of regents of the University of Idaho. The board shall verify the eligibility of the dependent such person and communicate such eligibility to the dependent person and the affected institution or college.
- (34) Affected institutions and colleges shall, in their preparation of future budgets, include therein costs resulting from such tuition, fees, housing, meals, books, equipment and supplies for reimbursement thereof from appropriations of provide an eligible individual with the educational benefits set forth in subsection (1) of this section. The legislature shall annually appropriate state general funds to reimburse affected institutions for all costs resultant from the educational benefits provided to an eligible individual under the provisions of this section.

For the purposes of this section, a public safety officer employed by or volunteering for the state of Idaho or for a political subdivision of the state of Idaho is considered totally and permanently disabled if he or she is unable to perform with reasonable continuity the material duties of any gainful occupation for which he or she is reasonably fitted by education, training and experience at the time of application a current disability determination made by the United States social security administration is in effect with respect to such individual.

- (45) The scholarships provided in this section shall be available for dependents the spouse or children of public safety officers who were killed or totally and permanently disabled in 1975 or thereafter.
  - (56) For purposes of this section:

- (a) "Public safety officer" means a peace officer or firefighter, or a paramedic, emergency medical technician or first responder as those terms are defined in section 56-1012, Idaho Code.
- (b) "Volunteering" means contributing services as a bona fide member of a legally organized law enforcement agency, fire department or licensed emergency medical service provider organization.
- (67) The scholarship provided in this section shall not be available unless it is determined that:
  - (a) The death or disablement of the public safety officer occurred in the performance of the officer's duties;
  - (b) The death or disablement was not caused by the intentional misconduct of the public safety officer or by such officer's intentional infliction of injury; and
  - (c) The public safety officer was not voluntarily intoxicated at the time of death.

- 1 (8) The state board of education and board of regents of the university of Idaho may adopt rules to implement and administer this scholarship pro-
- gram.