

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 669

Introduced by Vargas, 7; Aguilar, 35; Blood, 3; Dorn, 30; Flood, 19;
Hansen, B., 16; Lathrop, 12; Lindstrom, 18; McKinney, 11;
Wayne, 13.

Read first time January 20, 2021

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to postsecondary education; to adopt the
- 2 Veteran Promise Act.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 5 of this act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the Veteran Promise Act.

3 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Veteran Promise Act:

4 (1) Uniformed service means an active or reserve component of:

5 (a) The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant
6 Marine, or Space Force of the United States;

7 (b) The Commissioned Officer Corps of the National Oceanic and
8 Atmospheric Administration or of the Public Health Services of the United
9 States; or

10 (c) The Nebraska National Guard;

11 (2) Commission means the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary
12 Education;

13 (3) Eligible military student means a student who:

14 (a) Graduated from a Nebraska high school during calendar year 2022;

15 (b) Signed enlistment papers prior to December 31, 2022, to serve in
16 a uniformed service; and

17 (c)(i) At the time of application is serving in such uniformed
18 service under a six-year obligation; or

19 (ii) Has served at least two years of active duty in such uniformed
20 service and at the time of application is serving in such uniformed
21 service or another uniformed service; and

22 (4) Eligible veteran student means a student who:

23 (a)(i) Graduated from a Nebraska high school during calendar year
24 2022; or

25 (ii) Graduated from a high school in another state during calendar
26 year 2022 and served in a uniformed service while assigned to a location
27 in this state;

28 (b) Signed enlistment papers prior to December 31, 2022, to serve in
29 a uniformed service; and

30 (c) Received either an honorable discharge or a general discharge
31 under honorable conditions from a uniformed service.

1 Sec. 3. (1) Each public postsecondary institution in this state
2 shall, upon application, automatically accept any eligible military
3 student or any veteran student to enroll as an undergraduate student in
4 online or in-person courses and programs.

5 (2) Except with regard to the initial acceptance of eligible
6 military students and eligible veteran students as provided in subsection
7 (1) of this section, nothing in the Veteran Promise Act shall be
8 construed to change any policy or practice of any public postsecondary
9 institution in this state.

10 Sec. 4. The commission shall administer the Veteran Promise Act.
11 The commission shall create an application for an eligible military
12 student or an eligible veteran student to demonstrate eligibility for
13 automatic acceptance under the act, make information about the act
14 available on its web site, and submit an annual report to the Legislature
15 on or before December 31, 2022, and on or before December 31 of each year
16 thereafter. Such report shall detail the number of applicants under the
17 act, the number of eligible military students and the number of eligible
18 veteran students who are participating under the act, and the public
19 postsecondary institutions where such eligible military students and
20 eligible veteran students are enrolled.

21 Sec. 5. The commission may adopt and promulgate rules and
22 regulations necessary to carry out the Veteran Promise Act.