

SENATE BILL NO. 193—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SENIOR  
CITIZENS, VETERANS AND ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS)

MARCH 9, 2021

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the education of veterans and their spouses and dependents. (BDR 34-382)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to prepare a report concerning students who are veterans; creating a preference in admission to certain programs for certain veterans; prohibiting the assessment of a tuition charge against certain veterans, spouses and dependents; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law previously required the Board of Regents of the University of  
2 Nevada to prepare and submit a report concerning students who are veterans to the  
3 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau or to the Legislative Committee on  
4 Education, as appropriate. This requirement expired by limitation on July 1, 2020.  
5 (Section 5 of Assembly Bill No. 76, chapter 13, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page  
6 55) **Section 2** of this bill revives this requirement.

7 Existing law prohibits the Board of Regents from discriminating in the  
8 admission of students on account of national origin, religion, age, physical  
9 disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race or color.  
10 (NRS 396.530) **Sections 3 and 4** of this bill require the Board of Regents to require  
11 each nursing program and program for the education of teachers to give preference  
12 in admission to veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who have been  
13 honorably discharged.

14 Existing federal law grants Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to eligible  
15 veterans. (38 U.S.C. §§ 3301-3327) Existing federal law authorizes a veteran who  
16 was discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States before January 1, 2013,  
17 to have access to such educational benefits for 15 years, while a veteran who was



18 discharged on or after January 1, 2013, has access to such benefits without  
19 expiration. (38 U.S.C. § 3321) Existing federal law grants Survivors' and  
20 Dependents' Educational Assistance to eligible survivors and dependents of  
21 members of the Armed Forces of the United States. (38 U.S.C. §§ 3500-3566)  
22 Existing state law authorizes the Board of Regents to assess a tuition charge against  
23 students who are not residents of this State. Existing law prohibits a tuition charge  
24 from being assessed against certain students, including, without limitation, students  
25 who are veterans who were honorably discharged within 5 years before the date of  
26 matriculation at a university, state college or community college within the Nevada  
27 System of Higher Education. (NRS 396.540) **Section 5** of this bill removes, for the  
28 purpose of this exemption from a tuition charge, the time limitation for  
29 matriculating at a university, state college or community college within the System  
30 for veterans who have been honorably discharged. **Section 5** additionally prohibits  
31 a tuition charge from being assessed against veterans, spouses and dependents who  
32 are using Post-9/11 Educational Assistance. **Section 5** similarly prohibits a tuition  
33 charge from being assessed against students using Survivors' and Dependents'  
34 Educational Assistance.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2. 1. *The Board of Regents shall, not later than***  
4 ***November 30 of each year, prepare and submit to the Director of***  
5 ***the Legislative Counsel Bureau for submission to the Legislature,***  
6 ***or to the Legislative Committee on Education when the***  
7 ***Legislature is not in regular session, a report concerning the***  
8 ***participation of students who are veterans in the System. The***  
9 ***report must cover the immediately preceding academic year.***

10 **2. *The report must include, without limitation:***

11 ***(a) The number of students who:***

12 ***(1) Identify themselves as veterans.***

13 ***(2) Are receiving payments or benefits from the United***  
14 ***States Department of Veterans Affairs.***

15 ***(b) The number of students who are veterans, divided by***  
16 ***gender.***

17 ***(c) The rate of retention and average age of the students who***  
18 ***are veterans.***

19 ***(d) The most common areas of study among the students who***  
20 ***are veterans.***

21 ***(e) Any information necessary to determine the impact of***  
22 ***policy changes on the number of students who are veterans in the***  
23 ***System.***

24 ***(f) The number of students who are veterans who graduated***  
25 ***during the immediately preceding academic year.***



1 (g) *The efforts of each institution to retain and graduate*  
2 *students who are veterans through retention and other related*  
3 *programs.*

4 **Sec. 3.** *The Board of Regents shall require each nursing*  
5 *program in the System to give preference in admission to veterans*  
6 *of the Armed Forces of the United States who were honorably*  
7 *discharged.*

8 **Sec. 4.** *The Board of Regents shall require each program*  
9 *developed by the System for the education of teachers to give*  
10 *preference in admission to veterans of the Armed Forces of the*  
11 *United States who were honorably discharged.*

12 **Sec. 5.** NRS 396.540 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 396.540 1. For the purposes of this section:

14 (a) "Bona fide resident" shall be construed in accordance with  
15 the provisions of NRS 10.155 and policies established by the Board  
16 of Regents, to the extent that those policies do not conflict with any  
17 statute. The qualification "bona fide" is intended to ensure that the  
18 residence is genuine and established for purposes other than the  
19 avoidance of tuition.

20 (b) "Matriculation" has the meaning ascribed to it in regulations  
21 adopted by the Board of Regents.

22 (c) "Tuition charge" means a charge assessed against students  
23 who are not residents of Nevada and which is in addition to  
24 registration fees or other fees assessed against students who are  
25 residents of Nevada.

26 2. The Board of Regents may fix a tuition charge for students  
27 at all campuses of the System, but tuition charges must not be  
28 assessed against:

29 (a) All students whose families have been bona fide residents of  
30 the State of Nevada for at least 12 months before the matriculation  
31 of the student at a university, state college or community college  
32 within the System;

33 (b) All students whose families reside outside of the State of  
34 Nevada, providing such students have themselves been bona fide  
35 residents of the State of Nevada for at least 12 months before their  
36 matriculation at a university, state college or community college  
37 within the System;

38 (c) All students whose parent, legal guardian or spouse is a  
39 member of the Armed Forces of the United States who:

40 (1) Is on active duty and stationed at a military installation in  
41 the State of Nevada or a military installation in another state which  
42 has a specific nexus to this State, including, without limitation, the  
43 Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center located at Pickel  
44 Meadow, California; or



1 (2) Was on active duty and stationed at a military installation  
2 in the State of Nevada or a military installation in another state  
3 which has a specific nexus to this State, including, without  
4 limitation, the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center  
5 located at Pickel Meadow, California, on the date on which the  
6 student enrolled at an institution of the System if such students  
7 maintain continuous enrollment at an institution of the System;

8 (d) All students who are using benefits under the Marine  
9 Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship pursuant to 38  
10 U.S.C. § 3311(b)(8);

11 (e) All public school teachers who are employed full-time by  
12 school districts in the State of Nevada;

13 (f) All full-time teachers in private elementary, secondary and  
14 postsecondary educational institutions in the State of Nevada whose  
15 curricula meet the requirements of chapter 394 of NRS;

16 (g) Employees of the System who take classes other than during  
17 their regular working hours;

18 (h) Members of the Armed Forces of the United States who are  
19 on active duty and stationed at a military installation in the State of  
20 Nevada or a military installation in another state which has a  
21 specific nexus to this State, including, without limitation, the Marine  
22 Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center located at Pickel Meadow,  
23 California;

24 (i) Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who were  
25 honorably discharged and who were on active duty while stationed  
26 at a military installation in the State of Nevada or a military  
27 installation in another state which has a specific nexus to this State,  
28 including, without limitation, the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare  
29 Training Center located at Pickel Meadow, California, on the date of  
30 discharge;

31 (j) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, veterans of the  
32 Armed Forces of the United States who were honorably discharged ;  
33 ~~[within the 5 years immediately preceding the date of matriculation~~  
34 ~~of the veteran at a university, state college or community college~~  
35 ~~within the System; and]~~

36 (k) Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who have  
37 been awarded the Purple Heart [ ];

38 (l) *All students who are:*

39 (1) *Veterans using Post-9/11 Educational Assistance*  
40 *pursuant to 38 U.S.C. §§ 3301 to 3327, inclusive, and became*  
41 *eligible for such benefits on or after January 1, 2013; or*

42 (2) *Spouses or dependents using Post-9/11 Educational*  
43 *Assistance pursuant to 38 U.S.C. §§ 3301 to 3327, inclusive; and*



1 *(m) All students who are using Survivors' and Dependents'*  
2 *Educational Assistance pursuant to 38 U.S.C. §§ 3500 to 3566,*  
3 *inclusive.*

4 3. The Board of Regents may grant more favorable exemptions  
5 from tuition charges for veterans of the Armed Forces of the United  
6 States ~~[who were honorably discharged]~~ than the ~~[exemption]~~  
7 *exemptions* provided pursuant to ~~[paragraph (j) of]~~ subsection 2, if  
8 required for the receipt of federal money.

9 4. The Board of Regents may grant exemptions from tuition  
10 charges each semester to other worthwhile and deserving students  
11 from other states and foreign countries, in a number not to exceed a  
12 number equal to 3 percent of the total matriculated enrollment of  
13 students for the last preceding fall semester.

14 **Sec. 6.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do  
15 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a  
16 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

17 **Sec. 7.** 1. This section and section 5 of this act become  
18 effective on July 1, 2021.

19 2. Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, and 6 of this act become effective  
20 on October 1, 2021.

