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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Introduced By: Senators Felag, Walaska, DiPalma, Ciccone, and Raptakis

Date Introduced: February 12, 2014

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 30-30.1-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 30-30.1 entitled
2 "Educational Benefits for Disabled American Veterans" is hereby amended to read as follows:
3 **30-30.1-1. Educational benefits for disabled American veterans. --** Any veteran who
4 is a permanent resident of this state who submits proof sufficient to establish a veterans' rated ten
5 percent (10%) to one hundred percent (100%) disability by the department of veterans' affairs as a
6 result of military service shall be entitled to take courses at any public institution of higher
7 education in the state without the payment of tuition, exclusive of other fees and charges;
8 Provided, however, that any person eligible for financial aid as determined by the institution of
9 higher education, shall apply for such financial aid. Any financial aid award received by the
10 applicant shall be applied towards the full amount of tuition that would otherwise have been
11 charged by the public institution of higher education. ~~Admission into particular courses will be~~
12 ~~granted upon a space available basis and shall be at the discretion of the particular institutions to~~
13 ~~which application is made as aforesaid.~~ Students using the tuition waivers for courses and
14 competitive programs shall register at their normally scheduled times in accordance with each
15 institution's registration policies. This will include priority registration, where granted to students
16 with disability status. Use of this waiver for competitive programs does not supersede any
17 existing academic criteria for admission into those programs.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR
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1 This act would entitle a disabled American veteran who is a permanent resident of this
2 state, to a waiver for free admission into competitive programs at any public institution of higher
3 education in the state; provided, that the disabled veteran meets the academic criteria and
4 registration policies.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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