



2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 134

April 4, 2013 - Introduced by Representatives PETRYK, BIES, BERCEAU, BERNIER, BROOKS, JACQUE, KAHL, KESTELL, MURSAU, OHNSTAD, SINICKI, STRACHOTA and ENDSLEY, cosponsored by Senators PETROWSKI, CARPENTER, LASSA, OLSEN, L. TAYLOR and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Veterans.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 20.465 (2) (r), 321.45 (1) (b) and 321.45 (2) of the statutes;
2 **relating to:** financial aid for service members and their immediate families
3 and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) is required to provide financial aid from the military family relief fund to certain military family members. The military family relief fund is funded by the voluntary donations of Wisconsin taxpayers on state income tax returns. Under current law, a person may be eligible to receive military family financial aid if he or she is a Wisconsin resident who is part of the immediate family of a service member who is a member of a reserve unit of the U.S. armed forces or of the Wisconsin national guard, is a Wisconsin resident, and is serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. Service members themselves are not eligible for military family financial aid.

This bill extends eligibility for military family financial aid to members of the immediate family of a service member who is a Wisconsin resident and is a member of the U.S. armed forces, including any reserve unit, or of the Wisconsin national guard, regardless of whether that service member is on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. The bill also extends eligibility for military family financial aid to a service member who is a Wisconsin resident and is a member of the U.S. armed forces, including any reserve unit, or of the Wisconsin national guard, regardless of whether that service member is on active duty in the U.S. armed forces or has any immediate family members who are eligible for the financial aid.

