
Higher Education Committee

HB 2009

Brief Description: Providing higher education support for gold star families.

Sponsors: Representatives Reeves, Stonier, Riccelli, Peterson, Doglio, Jinkins, Kilduff, Lovick, Tarleton, McBride, Ormsby, Stanford, Orwall, Muri, Slatter, Ryu and Fey.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a \$1,500 annual textbook stipend to children and spouses receiving a tuition waiver because their parent or spouse passed away, became totally disabled, or is considered a prisoner of war or missing in action due to active military service.
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Hearing Date: 2/14/17

Staff: Megan Mulvihill (786-7304).

Background:

State law requires and authorizes public institutions of higher education to grant various tuition and fee waivers. The institutions are limited in their tuition and fee waiver authority in that the total amount of tuition and fee revenue waived, exempted, or reduced may not exceed a percentage of their estimated gross operating fee revenue.

The public institutions of higher education are required to waive undergraduate tuition and fees for children and spouses of an eligible veteran or National Guard member, who as a result of serving:

- lost his or her life;
- became totally disabled; or
- is considered a prisoner of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA).

In order to be eligible for the tuition waiver, a child must be domiciled in Washington and be between the age of 17 and 26. The spouse or domestic partner must be a Washington

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domiciliary, not have remarried or entered into another domestic partnership, and must use the tuition waiver within 10 years of the date of death, disability, or determination of POW or MIA.

The child or spouse may receive a tuition waiver until he or she has earned 200 quarter credits, or the equivalent of semester credits.

Summary of Bill:

Provides a \$1,500 annual stipend for textbooks and course materials to recipients of tuition waivers received because the recipient's spouse or parent lost his or her life, became totally disabled, or is considered a POW or MIA due to serving in active military service.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on 02/09/2017.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.