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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6071**

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**State of Washington**

**58th Legislature**

**2004 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Shin, Sheahan, Jacobsen, Rasmussen, B. Sheldon, Brandland, Doumit, Hewitt, Eide, Prentice, Kohl-Welles, Oke, Kline, Roach, Finkbeiner, Winsley, Reardon, Fairley, McCaslin, Thibaudeau, Benton, Fraser, Franklin, Regala, Mulliken and Johnson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/04.

1       AN ACT Relating to veterans of the Afghanistan conflict and the  
2 Persian Gulf War II; amending RCW 28B.15.628; and reenacting and  
3 amending RCW 41.04.005.

4       BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5       **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.04.005 and 2002 c 292 s 1 and 2002 c 27 s 1 are  
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7       (1) As used in RCW 41.04.005, 41.16.220, 41.20.050, 41.40.170, and  
8 28B.15.380 "veteran" includes every person, who at the time he or she  
9 seeks the benefits of RCW 41.04.005, 41.16.220, 41.20.050, 41.40.170,  
10 or 28B.15.380 has received an honorable discharge or received a  
11 discharge for physical reasons with an honorable record and who meets  
12 at least one of the following criteria:

13       (a) The person has served between World War I and World War II or  
14 during any period of war, as defined in subsection (2) of this section,  
15 as either:

16       (i) A member in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
17 States;

18       (ii) A member of the women's air forces service pilots;

1 (iii) A U.S. documented merchant mariner with service aboard an  
2 oceangoing vessel operated by the war shipping administration, the  
3 office of defense transportation, or their agents, from December 7,  
4 1941, through December 31, 1946; or

5 (iv) A civil service crewmember with service aboard a U.S. army  
6 transport service or U.S. naval transportation service vessel in  
7 oceangoing service from December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946; or

8 (b) The person has received the armed forces expeditionary medal,  
9 or marine corps and navy expeditionary medal, for opposed action on  
10 foreign soil, for service:

11 (i) In any branch of the armed forces of the United States; or

12 (ii) As a member of the women's air forces service pilots.

13 (2) A "period of war" includes:

14 (a) World War I;

15 (b) World War II;

16 (c) The Korean conflict;

17 (d) The Vietnam era(~~(+ , which )~~), which means:

18 (i) The period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May 7,  
19 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam  
20 during that period;

21 (ii) The period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7,  
22 1975;

23 (e) The Persian Gulf War, which was the period beginning August 2,  
24 1990, and ending on the date prescribed by presidential proclamation or  
25 law;

26 (f) Service in the Persian Gulf combat zone as a part of Operation  
27 Iraqi Freedom;

28 (g) Service in southern or central Asia as a part of Operation  
29 Enduring Freedom;

30 (h) The period beginning on the date of any future declaration of  
31 war by the congress and ending on the date prescribed by presidential  
32 proclamation or concurrent resolution of the congress; and

33 (~~(+g)~~) (i) The following armed conflicts, if the participant was  
34 awarded the respective campaign badge or medal: The crisis in Lebanon;  
35 the invasion of Grenada; Panama, Operation Just Cause; Somalia,  
36 Operation Restore Hope; Haiti, Operation Uphold Democracy; and Bosnia,  
37 Operation Joint Endeavor.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.628 and 1999 c 82 s 2 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       (1) The legislature finds that military and naval veterans who have  
4 served their country in wars on foreign soil have risked their own  
5 lives to defend both the lives of all Americans and the freedoms that  
6 define and distinguish our nation. It is the intent of the legislature  
7 to honor Persian Gulf combat zone veterans for the public service they  
8 have provided to their country. It is the further intent of the  
9 legislature that, for eligible Persian Gulf combat zone veterans,  
10 institutions of higher education waive tuition and fee increases that  
11 have occurred after the 1990-91 academic year.

12       (2) Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing  
13 boards of the state universities, the regional universities, The  
14 Evergreen State College, and the community colleges may exempt veterans  
15 of the Persian Gulf combat zone or the Afghanistan conflict from all or  
16 a portion of increases in tuition and fees that occur after the 1990-91  
17 academic year, if the veteran could have qualified as a Washington  
18 resident student under RCW 28B.15.012(2), had he or she been enrolled  
19 as a student (~~on August 1, 1990~~) at the time the military service was  
20 rendered.

21       (3) For the purposes of this section, "a veteran of the Persian  
22 Gulf combat zone" means a person who served on active duty in the armed  
23 forces of the United States during any portion of the 1991 calendar  
24 year in the Persian Gulf combat zone as designated by executive order  
25 of the president of the United States or during or after the 2003  
26 calendar year in any portion of the Persian Gulf combat zone.

27       (4) For the purposes of this section, "a veteran of the Afghanistan  
28 conflict" means a person who served on active duty in the armed forces  
29 of the United States during or after any portion of the 2001 calendar  
30 year in southern or central Asia as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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