

FEB 12 1997

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE

BY LARSON

208

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to an expansion of the national guard tuition aid
2 program to include active members of a United States military
3 reserve unit based in this state or that drills in this state.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 208

1 Section 1. Section 261.21, Code 1997, is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 261.21 ~~NATIONAL-GUARD~~ ACTIVE SELECTIVE RESERVE TUITION AID
4 PROGRAM.

5 1. Subject to an appropriation of sufficient funds by the
6 general assembly, a member of the ~~national-guard~~ active
7 selective reserve who meets the eligibility requirements of
8 this subsection is entitled to attend and pursue any
9 undergraduate course of study at a community college as
10 defined in chapter 260C, or an institution of higher learning
11 under the control of the state board of regents upon the
12 payment by the member personally of fifty percent of the
13 tuition charged by the community college or institution of
14 higher learning. The remaining tuition shall be paid by the
15 college student aid commission from funds appropriated by the
16 general assembly. To be eligible for tuition aid under this
17 section, a ~~national-guard-member~~ qualified person shall meet
18 the following conditions:

19 a. Be a resident of the state and a member of ~~an- Iowa-army~~
20 ~~or-air-national-guard-unit~~ the active selective reserve
21 throughout each semester or the duration of the vocational
22 program for which the member has applied for benefits.

23 b. Have satisfactorily completed required initial active
24 duty training.

25 c. Have maintained satisfactory performance of duty upon
26 return from initial active duty training, including attending
27 a minimum of ninety percent of scheduled drill dates and
28 attending annual training.

29 d. Have satisfactorily met the entrance requirements for
30 admission to a community college, or institution of higher
31 learning under the control of the state board of regents, and
32 maintain satisfactory academic progress.

33 e. Have provided proper notice of ~~national-guard~~ active
34 selective reserve status to the community college or
35 institution at the time of registration for the term in which

1 tuition benefits are sought.

2 f. Apply to the ~~adjutant-general-of-Iowa~~ appropriate
3 official, who shall determine eligibility and whose decision
4 is final. For purposes of this section, the appropriate
5 official is one of the following:

6 (1) The adjutant general of Iowa if the person is a member
7 of an Iowa army or air national guard unit.

8 (2) The person's unit commander if the person is an active
9 member of a United States military reserve unit based in this
10 state or that drills in this state.

11 2. Participation in the tuition aid program by an
12 accredited private institution, as defined in section 261.9,
13 is voluntary. Subject to an appropriation of sufficient funds
14 by the general assembly, a member of the ~~Iowa-national-guard~~
15 active selective reserve who meets the eligibility
16 requirements of subsection 1, except for subsection 1,
17 paragraph "d", is entitled to attend and pursue any
18 undergraduate course of study at any participating accredited
19 private institution, as defined in section 261.9, upon
20 admission to the institution and payment of tuition less an
21 amount equal to fifty percent of the resident tuition rate
22 established for institutions of higher learning under the
23 control of the state board of regents. The remaining tuition,
24 not to exceed fifty percent of the resident tuition rate for a
25 regents university, shall be paid by the college student aid
26 commission from funds appropriated by the general assembly.

27 3. An eligible member of the ~~national-guard~~ active
28 selective reserve, attending an educational institution as a
29 full-time student, shall not receive tuition aid under this
30 section for more than eight semesters, or if attending as a
31 part-time student, not more than sixteen semesters of
32 undergraduate study, or the trimester or quarter equivalent.
33 A guard member of the active selective reserve who has met the
34 educational requirements for a baccalaureate degree is
35 ineligible for tuition aid under this section.

1 4. The eligibility of applicants shall be certified by the
2 ~~adjutant-general-of-Iowa~~ appropriate official, as provided in
3 subsection 1, paragraph "f", to the college student aid
4 commission, and all amounts that are or become due to a
5 community college, accredited private institution, or
6 institution of higher learning under the control of the state
7 board of regents under this section shall be paid to the
8 college or institution by the college student aid commission
9 upon receipt of certification by the president or governing
10 board of the educational institution as to accuracy of charges
11 made, and as to the attendance of the individual at the
12 educational institution. The college student aid commission
13 shall maintain an annual record of the number of participants
14 and the tuition dollar value of the participation.

15 5. For purposes of this section, "active selective
16 reserve" includes an Iowa army or air national guard unit or a
17 United States military reserve unit based in this state or
18 that drills in this state.

19 5- 6. The college student aid commission shall adopt rules
20 pursuant to chapter 17A to administer this section.

21 EXPLANATION

22 This bill expands the national guard tuition aid program,
23 which was established in the Code in 1996 with the enactment
24 of House File 2477, to include active members of a United
25 States military reserve unit based in this state or that
26 drills in this state and changes the name of the program to
27 the "active selective reserve tuition aid program".

28 Currently under the Code, subject to the appropriation of
29 sufficient funds by the general assembly, an army or air
30 national guard member who is a resident of the state and who
31 fulfills all other eligibility requirements established in the
32 Code is entitled to attend and pursue any undergraduate course
33 of study at any community college, institution of higher
34 education under the control of the board of regents, or
35 participating accredited private college as a full-time or

1 part-time student. The national guard member pays tuition to
2 the postsecondary institution, less an amount equal to 50
3 percent of the resident tuition rate established for the
4 community college or institution of higher learning under the
5 control of the state board of regents. The remaining tuition
6 is paid by the college student aid commission. If the
7 national guard member is attending a participating accredited
8 private college, the member pays the difference between the
9 tuition of the accredited private college and 50 percent of
10 the resident tuition rate for a regents university.

11 Under the bill, the applicant applies to the adjutant
12 general of Iowa if the person is a member of an Iowa army or
13 air national guard unit, and to the person's unit commander if
14 the person is an active member of a United States military
15 reserve unit based in this state or that drills in this state.

16 The bill defines "active selective reserve" to include an
17 Iowa army or air national guard unit or a United States
18 military reserve unit based in this state or that drills in
19 this state.

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