

**House File 182 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 182

BY NUNN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act authorizing the adjutant general of Iowa to waive  
2 certain requirements and limitations of the national guard  
3 educational assistance program under certain conditions.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 261.86, Code 2017, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3A. The adjutant general of Iowa, in  
4 determining the eligibility of a national guard member under  
5 subsection 1, paragraph "f", may waive the limitations of  
6 subsection 1 that require enrollment in an Iowa postsecondary  
7 institution, and the limitations of subsection 3, paragraph  
8 "a", relating to semester hours or the equivalent, and  
9 for national guard members who have met the educational  
10 requirements for a baccalaureate degree, if the postsecondary  
11 institution in which the national guard member is enrolled is  
12 accredited by the higher learning commission and the degree  
13 program in which the national guard member is enrolled is  
14 included on the current critical manning list issued by the  
15 national guard or a branch of the armed forces of the United  
16 States.

17 Sec. 2. Section 261.86, subsection 4, Code 2017, is amended  
18 to read as follows:

19 4. The eligibility of applicants and amounts of educational  
20 assistance to be paid shall be certified by the adjutant  
21 general of Iowa to the ~~college student aid~~ commission, and  
22 all amounts that are or become due to a community college,  
23 accredited private institution, or institution of higher  
24 learning under the control of the state board of regents under  
25 this section, or to a postsecondary institution as provided  
26 under a waiver issued pursuant to subsection 3A, shall be  
27 paid to the college or institution by the ~~college student aid~~  
28 commission upon receipt of certification by the president or  
29 governing board of the educational institution as to accuracy  
30 of charges made, and as to the attendance and academic progress  
31 of the individual at the educational institution. The ~~college~~  
32 ~~student aid~~ commission shall maintain an annual record of the  
33 number of participants and the dollar value of the educational  
34 assistance provided.

35

EXPLANATION

1           The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
2           the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3       This bill authorizes the adjutant general of Iowa to waive  
4 certain requirements and limitations of the national guard  
5 educational assistance program.

6       Currently, to be determined eligible for the program,  
7 a national guard member must submit an application to the  
8 adjutant general of Iowa, and be enrolled as an undergraduate  
9 student in a community college, a regents university, or an  
10 accredited private institution. An eligible member of the  
11 national guard shall not receive educational assistance for  
12 more than 120 semester, or the equivalent, credit hours of  
13 undergraduate study, and a national guard member who has met  
14 the educational requirements for a baccalaureate degree is  
15 ineligible for educational assistance. The adjutant general's  
16 decision on eligibility is final.

17       The bill authorizes the adjutant general, in determining the  
18 eligibility of a national guard member, to waive the provision  
19 requiring enrollment in an Iowa postsecondary institution and  
20 the limitations relating to semester hours or the equivalent  
21 and for national guard members who have met the educational  
22 requirements for a baccalaureate degree if the postsecondary  
23 institution in which the national guard member is enrolled is  
24 accredited by the higher learning commission and the degree  
25 program in which the national guard member is enrolled is  
26 included on the current critical manning list issued by the  
27 national guard or a branch of the armed forces of the United  
28 States. The bill makes corresponding changes to direct the  
29 college student aid commission to pay the amounts due to a  
30 postsecondary institution other than a community college,  
31 accredited postsecondary institution in Iowa, or a regents  
32 university if the adjutant general issues a waiver authorizing  
33 a national guard member to enroll in such a postsecondary  
34 institution.