

2021 -- H 5928

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- TUITION FOR COVERED
INDIVIDUALS UNDER POST-911 BILL AND MONTGOMERY GI BILL

Introduced By: Representatives Vella-Wilkinson, Noret, Solomon, Azzinaro, Kennedy,
and Filippi

Date Introduced: February 24, 2021

Referred To: House Veterans` Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The title of Chapter 30-30.3 of the General Laws entitled "Tuition for
2 Covered Individuals Under Post-911 GI Bill and Montgomery GI Bill" is hereby amended to read
3 as follows:

4 ~~CHAPTER 30-30.3~~

5 ~~Tuition for Covered Individuals Under Post-911 GI Bill and Montgomery GI Bill~~

6 CHAPTER 30-30.3

7 TUITION FOR COVERED INDIVIDUALS, TO INCLUDE UNDER POST-911 GI BILL AND
8 MONTGOMERY GI BILL

9 SECTION 2. Section 30-30.3-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 30-30.3 entitled "Tuition
10 for Covered Individuals Under Post-911 GI Bill and Montgomery GI Bill" is hereby amended to
11 read as follows:

12 **30-30.3-1. In-state tuition eligibility.**

13 (a) Pursuant to the reauthorization of the Federal Higher Education Act of 2008 and
14 passage of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, the following individuals
15 shall be entitled to pay tuition and fees at an institution of higher education at the rates provided
16 for Rhode Island residents without regard to the length of time the person has lived in this state:

17 (1) Any active duty member or the spouse or dependent of an active duty member of any
18 branch of the uniformed services who has been on active duty for a period of more than thirty (30)

1 days; or

2 (2) Any active duty member who is injured while on active duty, and whose injuries causes
3 him or her to be on active duty for a period of less than thirty (30) days; or

4 (3) Any veteran of the uniformed services who is eligible for Federal GI Bill educational
5 benefits; or

6 (4) Any other individual who is eligible for transferred Federal GI Bill educational benefits
7 or the Fry Scholarship, provided that he or she lives in the state of Rhode Island while attending a
8 Rhode Island public postsecondary institution.

9 (b) A spouse or child of a member of the active military service of the United States who
10 has been assigned to duty elsewhere immediately following assignment to duty in Rhode Island
11 shall be deemed to be an in-state resident for the purposes of determining tuition and fees at Rhode
12 Island public universities, colleges or community colleges, and is entitled to pay the tuition fees
13 and other fees or charges provided for or applicable to Rhode Island residents as long as the spouse
14 or child resides continuously in Rhode Island and remains enrolled at the public university, college
15 or community college.

16 ~~(b)~~(c) The council of postsecondary education shall develop a policy and rules and
17 regulations to ensure that public postsecondary institutions in this state implement the ~~changes set~~
18 ~~forth in~~ provisions of this section.

19 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- TUITION FOR COVERED
INDIVIDUALS UNDER POST-911 BILL AND MONTGOMERY GI BILL

1 This act would provide that children and spouses of active military members assigned to
2 duty in Rhode Island, may continue to attend public post-secondary education in Rhode Island as
3 in-state residents upon the service member reassignment elsewhere as long as the child or spouse
4 remains continuously enrolled in the Rhode Island institution.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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