

2012 -- S 2546

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LC01940
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE

Introduced By: Senators Felag, Bates, Ottiano, Lanzi, and DiPalma

Date Introduced: February 28, 2012

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 30 of the General Laws entitled "MILITARY AFFAIRS AND
2 DEFENSE" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 30.2

4 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR COMBAT VETERANS

5 **30-30.2-1. Short title.** – This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Education
6 Assistance for Combat Veterans Act.”

7 **30-30.2-2. Statement of purpose.** – It is hereby found and declared as follows: (1) The
8 fundamental freedoms enjoyed by all citizens of our state and these United States are insured in
9 no small part through the honorable service of our nations military veterans;

10 (2) The people of the state have a deep debt of gratitude for the sacrifices made by these
11 men and women who as combat veterans placed their lives in harms way to protect and defend
12 our nation from all foreign enemies and terrorist threats; and

13 (3) These men and women should be allowed to resume their education upon their return
14 to Rhode Island without delay.

15 **30-30.2-3. Preferential registration.** – The office of the commissioner of higher
16 education shall promulgate rules and regulations to establish a preferential class registration
17 process for all state universities and centers of higher education, which shall be reviewed and
18 approved by the adjutant general of the Rhode Island National Guard to allow combat veterans to
19 register first for all classes at any state run institution of higher education. In developing rules

1 and regulations, the office of the commission of higher education in consultation with adjutant
2 general of the Rhode Island National Guard shall determine individual preference ranking among
3 combat veterans including, but not limited to, the number of combat tours served, service awards
4 and any other such criteria deemed appropriate by the adjutant general.

5 SECTION 2. 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

1 This act would establish a preferential college class registration system for service
2 personnel returning from a combat tour.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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