LC004090

#### 2014 -- H 7389

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

#### AN ACT

## RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

<u>Introduced By:</u> Representatives Gallison, Casey, Fellela, Messier, and Azzinaro <u>Date Introduced:</u> February 06, 2014 <u>Referred To:</u> House Veterans` Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 30-30.1-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 30-30.1 entitled
"Educational Benefits for Disabled American Veterans" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 30-30.1-1. Educational benefits for disabled American veterans. -- Any veteran who is a permanent resident of this state who submits proof sufficient to establish a veterans' rated ten 4 5 percent (10%) to one hundred percent (100%) disability by the department of veterans' affairs as a 6 result of military service shall be entitled to take courses at any public institution of higher education in the state without the payment of tuition, exclusive of other fees and charges; 7 8 Provided, however, that any person eligible for financial aid as determined by the institution of 9 higher education, shall apply for such financial aid. Any financial aid award received by the 10 applicant shall be applied towards the full amount of tuition that would otherwise have been 11 charged by the public institution of higher education. Admission into particular courses 12 competitive programs will be granted upon a space available basis and shall be at the discretion of 13 the particular institutions to which application is made as aforesaid. Use of this waiver for 14 competitive programs does not supersede any existing academic criteria for admission into those 15 programs.

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SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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#### **EXPLANATION**

#### BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

#### OF

### AN ACT

# RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

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1 This act would provide a disabled American veteran who is a permanent resident of this

2 state, a waiver for the free admission into competitive programs at any public institution of higher

3 education in the state; provided the disabled veteran meets the academic criteria.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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