WEST virginia legislature

2023 regular session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Introduced

House Bill 2968

By Delegates Cooper, Smith, Steele, Longanacre, Ridenour, Sheedy, Honaker, Holstein and Crouse

[Introduced January 24, 2023; Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Homeland Security then Finance]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §18B-10-7e, relating to providing a waiver of tuition and fees at state institutions of higher education and community and technical colleges for military veterans, their spouses, and dependents, when that veteran has a service-related disability of 50 percent or greater.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 10. FEES AND OTHER MONEY COLLECTED AT STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

§18B-10-7e. Tuition waivers for service-connected disabled veterans and their dependents.

(a) The purpose of this section is to require state institutions of higher education, as well as community and technical colleges, to provide a waiver of tuition and fees for military veterans, their spouses, and their dependents, so long as that military veteran has a service-related disability of 50 percent or greater, as based on the Veterans Administration Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD).

(b) For every eligible veteran who is enrolled or will be enrolled as an undergraduate student, the agreement shall provide for a waiver of the cost of tuition and mandatory fees, as well as any eligible veteran who is or will be enrolled in a graduate or professional program.

(c) "Eligible veteran" means any individual who satisfies the 50 percent disability threshold.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide a waiver of tuition and fees at state institutions of higher education and community and technical colleges for military veterans, their spouses, and dependents, when that veteran has a service-related disability of 50 percent or greater.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.