

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 484

By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel

[By Request of the Executive]

[Introduced January 17, 2024; referred
to the Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18B-10-1a of the Code of West Virginia 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to extending in-state tuition rates to all members and veterans of the National Guard,
 3 reserves, and armed forces, as well as their spouses and dependents, when they choose
 4 to move to West Virginia for the purpose of attending state institutions of higher education.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

**§18B-10-1a. Resident tuition rates for members or veterans of the National Guard,
 reserves, ~~and~~ armed forces, and their spouses and dependents.**

1 ~~(a) The term "resident" or "residency," or any other term or expression used to designate a~~
 2 ~~West Virginia resident student, when used to determine the rate of tuition to be charged students~~
 3 ~~attending state institutions of higher education shall be construed to include the following~~
 4 Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, the following persons shall be charged
 5 in-state tuition rates at the state's institutions of higher education regardless of domicile:

6 (1) Members of the National Guard or reserves who are not residents of West Virginia but
 7 who are active members of a National Guard or reserve unit in West Virginia;

8 (2) Current members of the United States armed forces who reside in or move to West
 9 Virginia;

10 (3) Veterans of the National Guard, a reserve unit, or the armed forces of the United States
 11 who reside in or move to West Virginia for the purpose of attending a state institution of higher
 12 education; and

13 (4) Spouses or dependents of a member or veteran of the National Guard, a reserve unit,
 14 or the armed forces of the United States who reside in or move to West Virginia with such member
 15 or veteran.

16 ~~(b) A person who qualifies as a resident, as that term is defined in subsection (a) of this~~

17 ~~section, on the first day of the semester or term of the college or institution, shall be charged~~
18 ~~resident tuition rates~~

19 (e)(b) The provisions of this section apply at the beginning of the semester or term
20 immediately following the effective date of this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to extend in-state tuition rates to all members of the military armed forces, National Guard, reserves, as well as veterans of such institutions and their spouses and dependents, in order to encourage our military, Guard, and veterans to move to and reside in West Virginia.

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