

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 708

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WILSON.

Pre-filed December 1, 2005, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

3115S.021

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 173, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to tuition grants for certain military members.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 173, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 173.234, to read as follows:

**173.234. 1. As used in this section, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following terms shall mean:**

**(1) "Board", the coordinating board for higher education;**

**(2) "Eligible student", a qualifying military member, as defined in this section;**

**(3) "Grant", the Iraq war military member grant as established by this section;**

**(4) "Qualifying institution", any approved public or private institution as defined in section 173.205;**

**(5) "Qualifying military member", any member of the military of the United States, whether active duty, reserve, or national guard, who served in Iraq during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, who is a citizen of the state of Missouri;**

**(6) "Tuition", any tuition or incidental fee or both charged by a qualifying institution, as defined in this section, for attendance at the institution by an eligible student.**

**2. Within the limits of the amounts appropriated therefor, the board shall provide, as defined in this section, a grant to eligible students who attend qualifying institutions of postsecondary education.**

**3. An eligible student may receive a grant under this section only so long as the eligible student is enrolled in a program leading to a**

22 certificate, or an associate or baccalaureate degree in a qualifying  
23 institution. In no event shall the eligible student receive a grant  
24 beyond the completion of the first baccalaureate degree. No eligible  
25 student shall receive more than one hundred percent of tuition when  
26 combined with similar funds made available to such eligible student.

27 4. The coordinating board for higher education shall:

28 (1) Promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the  
29 implementation of this section;

30 (2) Determine minimum standards of performance in order for  
31 a student to remain eligible to receive a grant under this program;

32 (3) Make available on behalf of the eligible student an amount  
33 toward the eligible student's tuition which is equal to the grant to  
34 which the eligible student is entitled under the provisions of this  
35 section;

36 (4) Provide the forms and determine the procedures necessary  
37 for an eligible student to apply for and receive a grant under this  
38 program.

39 5. An eligible student who is enrolled or has been accepted for  
40 enrollment at a qualifying institution shall receive a grant in an  
41 amount not to exceed the least of the following:

42 (1) The actual tuition, as defined in this section, charged at the  
43 qualifying institution where the eligible student is enrolled or accepted  
44 for enrollment; or

45 (2) The highest amount of tuition charged a Missouri resident for  
46 attendance as a full-time student, as defined in section 173.205, at any  
47 campus within the University of Missouri system.

48 6. An eligible student who is a recipient of a grant may transfer  
49 from one qualifying institution to another without losing his or her  
50 entitlement under this section. The board shall make necessary  
51 adjustments in the amount of the grant. If a grant recipient at anytime  
52 withdraws from a qualifying institution so that under the rules and  
53 regulations of that institution the eligible student is entitled to a  
54 refund of any tuition, fees, or other charges, the qualifying institution  
55 shall pay the portion of the refund to which the student is entitled  
56 attributable to the grant for that semester or similar grading period to  
57 the board.

58 7. If an eligible student is granted financial assistance under any

59 other student aid program, public or private, the full amount of such  
60 aid shall be reported to the board by the qualifying institution and the  
61 eligible student.

62 8. Nothing in this section shall be construed as a promise or  
63 guarantee that a person will be admitted to a qualifying institution or  
64 to a particular qualifying institution, will be allowed to continue to  
65 attend a qualifying institution after having been admitted, or will be  
66 graduated from a qualifying institution.

Unofficial

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