March 20, 2007 – Introduced by Senators Leibham, Lazich, Roessler, Lehman and Darling, cosponsored by Representatives Bies, Hahn, Nygren, Lothian, Albers, A. Ott, Townsend and Sinicki. Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Higher Education.

- 1 AN ACT *to amend* 36.27 (3n) (a) 1., 36.27 (3n) (a) 2., 36.27 (3p) (a) (intro.), 38.24
- 2 (7) (a) 1., 38.24 (7) (a) 2. and 38.24 (8) (a) (intro.) of the statutes; **relating to:**3 eligibility for tuition fee remission for certain veterans and their spouses,
- 4 surviving spouses, and children.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law provides remission of tuition for certain students attending the University of Wisconsin (UW) System and technical college campuses. Under that law, certain veterans and the spouses, children, or surviving spouses of certain veterans are eligible for a full remission of tuition at the UW System and at the technical colleges for 128 credits or eight semesters. For a veteran to be eligible, he or she must have served under honorable conditions in certain types of active duty, be a resident, and have entered service while a resident of this state. For the spouse, surviving spouse, or child to be eligible, the veteran must have entered service while a resident of this state and either died while on duty or have a service–connected disability that is rated as 30 percent or more while a resident of this state.

This bill provides eligibility for the tuition remission for a veteran, and for the spouse, surviving spouse, or child of a disabled or deceased veteran, if the veteran was a resident of this state for at least ten continuous years after entering service and before the student registers for college.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 36.27 (3n) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

36.27 **(3n)** (a) 1. A person who has served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces, in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces, in the national guard, or in a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces; who was a resident of this state at the time of entry into that service or who was a resident for at least 10 continuous years after the time of entry into that service; and who, while a resident of this state, died on active duty, died as the result of a service–connected disability, or died in the line of duty while on active or inactive duty for training purposes.

SECTION 2. 36.27 (3n) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

36.27 **(3n)** (a) 2. A person who was <u>either</u> a resident of this state at the time of entry into service described in subd. 1. <u>or who was a resident of this state for at least 10 continuous years immediately preceding the beginning of any semester or session for which the spouse, surviving spouse, or child registers at an institution, and who the U.S. department of veteran affairs has awarded at least a 30 percent service–connected disability rating under 38 USC 1114 or 1134.</u>

Section 3. 36.27 (3p) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

36.27 **(3p)** (a) (intro.) In this subsection, "veteran" means a person who is verified by the department of veterans affairs as being a resident of this state for purposes of receiving benefits under ch. 45,; who is verified by the department of veterans affairs as being either a resident of the state at the time of his or her entry

into the U.S. armed forces or forces incorporated in the U.S. armed forces, <u>or as being</u> a <u>resident of this state for at least 10 continuous years immediately preceding the beginning of any semester or session for which the person registers at an institution; and as meeting any of the following conditions:</u>

SECTION 4. 38.24 (7) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

38.24 (7) (a) 1. A person who has served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces, in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces, in the national guard, or in a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces; who was a resident of this state at the time of entry into that service or who was a resident of this state for at least 10 continuous years after the time of entry into that service; and who, while a resident of this state, died on active duty, died as the result of a service–connected disability, or died in the line of duty while on active or inactive duty for training purposes.

SECTION 5. 38.24 (7) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

38.24 (7) (a) 2. A person who was <u>either</u> a resident of this state at the time of entry into service described in subd. 1. <u>or who was a resident of this state for at least 10 continuous years immediately preceding the beginning of any semester or session for which the spouse, surviving spouse, or child registers at an institution, and who the U.S. department of veteran affairs has awarded at least a 30 percent service–connected disability rating under 38 USC 1114 or 1134.</u>

Section 6. 38.24 (8) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

38.24 **(8)** (a) (intro.) In this subsection, "veteran" means a person who is verified by the department of veterans affairs as being a resident of this state for purposes of receiving benefits under ch. 45; who is verified by the department of veterans affairs as being either a resident of this state at the time of his or her entry into the

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1	U.S. armed forces or forces incorporated in the U.S. armed forces, or as being a
2	resident of this state for at least 10 continuous years immediately preceding the
3	beginning of any semester or session for which the person registers at an institution;
4	and as meeting any of the following conditions:

(END)