



2007 SENATE BILL 539

February 27, 2008 - Introduced by Senator ROESSLER, cosponsored by Representatives MUSSER, TOWNSEND, OWENS, BIES, BERCEAU, HAHN and LOTHIAN. Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Higher Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 36.27 (3n) (b) 1., 36.27 (3n) (b) 2., 38.24 (7) (b)
2 1. and 38.24 (7) (b) 2.; *to amend* 36.27 (3n) (b) (intro.) and 38.24 (7) (b) (intro.);
3 and *to create* 36.27 (3n) (b) 1. b., 36.27 (3n) (b) 1. c., 36.27 (3n) (b) 2. b., 36.27
4 (3n) (b) 2. c., 36.27 (3n) (d), 38.24 (7) (b) 1. b., 38.24 (7) (b) 1. c., 38.24 (7) (b) 2.
5 b., 38.24 (7) (b) 2. c. and 38.24 (7) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:** tuition fee
6 remission for certain spouses of eligible veterans.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a spouse, child, or unremarried surviving spouse of certain veterans is eligible for a full remission of tuition at the University of Wisconsin System and at technical colleges. For the spouse, child, or unremarried surviving spouse to be eligible, the veteran must have entered service while a resident of this state and either died as the result of a service-connected disability or while on duty or incurred a service-connected disability that is rated as 30 percent or more. Currently, the unremarried surviving spouse of a deceased veteran is eligible for the fee remission during the first ten years after the veteran died and, if the spouse had a child with the veteran, until ten years after the youngest child reaches 18 years of age. The spouse of a disabled veteran is currently eligible for the fee remission only during the first ten years after the veteran received the service-connected disability rating.

This bill adds full tuition remission eligibility to the spouse of an eligible veteran if the veteran died of a service-connected disability or had a

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service-connected disability that is rated as 100 percent, and if the spouse is eligible for the educational assistance benefits under the federal Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program. The bill provides that a person is only eligible for the full tuition remission for the ten-year period that the original fee remission was based on.

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:

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

2 36.27 **(3n)** (b) (intro.) Except as provided in subds. 1. to 3. and par. (d), the board
3 shall grant full remission of academic fees and segregated fees for 128 credits or 8
4 semesters, whichever is longer, to any resident student who is also any of the
5 following:

6 **SECTION 2.** 36.27 (3n) (b) 1. of the statutes is renumbered 36.27 (3n) (b) 1.
7 (intro.) and amended to read:

8 36.27 **(3n)** (b) 1. (intro.) A spouse of an eligible veteran. The Eligibility for a
9 remission under this subdivision applies only during the one of the following periods:

10 a. The first 10 years after the eligible veteran received the service-connected
11 disability rating.

12 **SECTION 3.** 36.27 (3n) (b) 1. b. of the statutes is created to read:

13 36.27 **(3n)** (b) 1. b. The first 10 years after the spouse becomes eligible for
14 educational assistance under 35 USC 3501-3566.

15 **SECTION 4.** 36.27 (3n) (b) 1. c. of the statutes is created to read:

16 36.27 **(3n)** (b) 1. c. The first 10 years after the effective date of this subd. 1. c.
17 [revisor inserts date], if the spouse was eligible for educational assistance under
18 35 USC 3501-3566 on that date.

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1 **SECTION 5.** 36.27 (3n) (b) 2. of the statutes, as affected by 2007 Wisconsin Act
2 20, is renumbered 36.27 (3n) (b) 2. (intro.) and amended to read:

3 36.27 **(3n)** (b) 2. (intro.) Except as provided in subd. 2m., an unremarried
4 surviving spouse of an eligible veteran. The Eligibility for a remission under this
5 subdivision applies only during the one of the following periods:

6 a. The first 10 years after the veteran died.

7 **SECTION 6.** 36.27 (3n) (b) 2. b. of the statutes is created to read:

8 36.27 **(3n)** (b) 2. b. The first 10 years after the spouse becomes eligible for
9 educational assistance under 35 USC 3501-3566.

10 **SECTION 7.** 36.27 (3n) (b) 2. c. of the statutes is created to read:

11 36.27 **(3n)** (b) 2. c. The first 10 years after the effective date of this subd. 2. c.
12 [revisor inserts date], if the spouse was eligible for educational assistance under
13 35 USC 3501-3566 on that date.

14 **SECTION 8.** 36.27 (3n) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

15 36.27 **(3n)** (d) Once a person receives a fee remission under this subsection, the
16 person is eligible for additional fee remissions under this subsection only for the
17 period of eligibility for which the original fee remission was based.

18 **SECTION 9.** 38.24 (7) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 38.24 **(7)** (b) (intro.) Except as provided in subs. 1. to 3. and par. (d), the district
20 board shall grant full remission of fees under sub. (1m) (a) to (c) for 128 credits or 8
21 semesters, whichever is longer, to any resident student who is also any of the
22 following:

23 **SECTION 10.** 38.24 (7) (b) 1. of the statutes is renumbered 38.24 (7) (b) 1. (intro.)
24 and amended to read:

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1 38.24 (7) (b) 1. (intro.) A spouse of an eligible veteran. The Eligibility for a
2 remission under this subdivision applies ~~only~~ during the one of the following periods:

3 a. The first 10 years after the eligible veteran received the service-connected
4 disability rating.

5 **SECTION 11.** 38.24 (7) (b) 1. b. of the statutes is created to read:

6 38.24 (7) (b) 1. b. The first 10 years after the spouse becomes eligible for
7 educational assistance under 35 USC 3501–3566.

8 **SECTION 12.** 38.24 (7) (b) 1. c. of the statutes is created to read:

9 38.24 (7) (b) 1. c. The first 10 years after the effective date of this subd. 1. c.
10 [revisor inserts date], if the spouse was eligible for educational assistance under 35
11 USC 3501–3566 on that date.

12 **SECTION 13.** 38.24 (7) (b) 2. of the statutes, as affected by 2007 Wisconsin Act
13 20, is renumbered 38.24 (7) (b) 2. (intro.) and amended to read:

14 38.24 (7) (b) 2. Except as provided in subd. 2m., an unremarried surviving
15 spouse of an eligible veteran. The Eligibility for a remission under this subdivision
16 applies only during the one of the following periods:

17 a. The first 10 years after the veteran died.

18 **SECTION 14.** 38.24 (7) (b) 2. b. of the statutes is created to read:

19 38.24 (7) (b) 2. b. The first 10 years after the spouse becomes eligible for
20 educational assistance under 35 USC 3501–3566.

21 **SECTION 15.** 38.24 (7) (b) 2. c. of the statutes is created to read:

22 38.24 (7) (b) 2. c. The first 10 years after the effective date of this subd. 2. c.
23 [revisor inserts date], if the spouse was eligible for educational assistance under 35
24 USC 3501–3566 on that date.

25 **SECTION 16.** 38.24 (7) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

