

State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



2013 SENATE BILL 120

- April 1, 2013 Introduced by Senators PETROWSKI, CARPENTER, LASSA, OLSEN, SCHULTZ and L. TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives PETRYK, BIES, BERCEAU, BERNIER, BROOKS, ENDSLEY, JACQUE, KAHL, KESTELL, MURSAU, OHNSTAD, SINICKI and STRACHOTA, by request of Department of Military Affairs. Referred to Committee on Transportation, Public Safety, and Veterans and Military Affairs.
- AN ACT to amend 20.465 (2) (r), 321.45 (1) (b) and 321.45 (2) of the statutes; relating to: financial aid for service members and their immediate families and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) is required to provide financial aid from the military family relief fund to certain military family members. The military family relief fund is funded by the voluntary donations of Wisconsin taxpayers on state income tax returns. Under current law, a person may be eligible to receive military family financial aid if he or she is a Wisconsin resident who is part of the immediate family of a service member who is a member of a reserve unit of the U.S. armed forces or of the Wisconsin national guard, is a Wisconsin resident, and is serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. Service members themselves are not eligible for military family financial aid.

This bill extends eligibility for military family financial aid to members of the immediate family of a service member who is a Wisconsin resident and is a member of the U.S. armed forces, including any reserve unit, or of the Wisconsin national guard, regardless of whether that service member is on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. The bill also extends eligibility for military family financial aid to a service member who is a Wisconsin resident and is a member of he U.S. armed forces, including any reserve unit, or of the Wisconsin national guard, regardless of whether that service member of he U.S. armed forces, including any reserve unit, or of the Wisconsin national guard, regardless of whether that service member is on active duty in the U.S. armed forces or has any immediate family members who are eligible for the financial aid.

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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. 20.465 (2) (r) of the statutes is amended to read: |
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| 2 | 20.465 (2) (r) Military family relief. All moneys received from the military |
| 3 | family relief fund for the payment of financial aid to military service members and |
| 4 | their families under s. 321.45 and for all of the administrative costs that the |
| 5 | department incurs in making those payments. |
| 6 | SECTION 2. 321.45 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read: |
| 7 | 321.45 (1) (b) "Service member" means a <u>resident of this state who is a</u> member |
| 8 | of a reserve unit of the U.S. armed forces <u>, including any reserve component,</u> or of the |
| 9 | national guard who is a resident of this state and who is serving on active duty in the |
| 10 | U.S. armed forces. |
| 11 | SECTION 3. 321.45 (2) of the statutes is amended to read: |
| 12 | 321.45 (2) The department shall provide financial aid to <u>eligible service</u> |
| 13 | members and eligible members of the immediate family of service members. The |
| 14 | department shall promulgate rules establishing eligibility criteria and the amount |
| 15 | of financial aid. |
| 16 | (END) |