AN ACT to create 36.27 (2) (bm) and 38.22 (6) (h) of the statutes; relating to:

resident tuition at University of Wisconsin System institutions and technical colleges for children and spouses of certain members of the armed forces.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill allows a child or spouse of a relocated active duty service member to qualify for resident tuition at a University of Wisconsin System institution or technical college under certain circumstances.

Under current law, a person generally must be a resident of this state for at least 12 months prior to registering at a UW System institution in order to be exempt from paying nonresident tuition. Current law specifies various nonresident tuition exemptions, under which nonresident students pay resident tuition rates.

Also under current law, the Technical College System Board establishes program fees that the technical college districts must charge students. With exceptions, the fees for nonresidents are 150 percent of the fees for residents. The TCS Board must establish procedures to determine the residence of students attending technical colleges, but statutes specify that certain students must be considered residents of this state.

This bill creates a nonresident tuition exemption at UW System institutions and technical colleges for a person if 1) the person is the child or spouse of an active duty member of the U.S. armed forces and the person has been accepted for admission to a UW System institution or technical college; 2) the service member resided in this state at the time the person was accepted for admission but the service
member was subsequently relocated and stationed in another state; and 3) after the person’s admission and initial enrollment, the person has remained continuously enrolled in the UW System institution or technical college.

For further information see the state and local 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 (2) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

36.27 (2) (bm) A person who meets all of the following requirements is entitled to the exemption under par. (a):

1. The person is the child or spouse of an active duty member of the U.S. armed forces and the person has been accepted for admission to an institution.

2. The service member under subd. 1. resided in this state at the time the person was accepted for admission to an institution but the service member was subsequently relocated and stationed in another state.

3. After the person’s admission and initial enrollment in an institution, the person has remained continuously enrolled in the institution.

SECTION 2. 38.22 (6) (h) of the statutes is created to read:

38.22 (6) (h) Any person who meets all of the following requirements:

1. The person is the child or spouse of an active duty member of the U.S. armed forces and the person has been accepted for admission to a district school.

2. The service member under subd. 1. resided in this state at the time the person was accepted for admission to a district school but the service member was subsequently relocated and stationed in another state.

3. After the person’s admission and initial enrollment in a district school, the person has remained continuously enrolled in the district school.
SECTION 3. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to the academic year that commences after the effective date of this subsection.