



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #704

Assistance for Needy Veterans Program Eligibility (Veterans Affairs)

[LFB 2015-17 Budget Summary: Page 529, #17]

CURRENT LAW

The assistance for needy veterans program provides subsistence payments and health care assistance to veterans who meet certain criteria related to income and assets and to unremarried spouses and dependent children of veterans who died while on active duty. Veterans must be Wisconsin residents at the time of application. For eligible spouses of veterans who died while on active duty, the deceased veteran must have entered service from Wisconsin or met certain other residency requirements.

GOVERNOR

Eliminate the state residency requirement from the eligibility criteria for the assistance for needy veterans program

MODIFICATION

Instead of eliminating the state residency requirements for eligibility under the needy veterans program, specify that the unremarried surviving spouse and dependent children who are state residents may qualify for assistance under the program regardless of the state residency status of the service member who died while on active duty.

Explanation: The Department of Administration indicates that the intent of the provision was to allow surviving dependents who are state residents to qualify for assistance, regardless of the state residency status of the deceased service member, rather than to eliminate all residency requirements.

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