



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 677

H.P. 469

House of Representatives, February 26, 2013

An Act Concerning Postsecondary Tuition Waivers for Children of Veterans

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BOLAND of Sanford.
Cosponsored by Senator CUSHING of Penobscot and
Representatives: CHENETTE of Saco, COOPER of Yarmouth, HARLOW of Portland,
KAENRATH of South Portland, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, TIPPING-SPITZ of Orono,
VOLK of Scarborough, Senators: TUTTLE of York, WOODBURY of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §505, sub-§2, ¶F**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 167, §8, is
3 further amended to read:

4 F. A child of a veteran who is attending state-supported postsecondary vocational
5 schools or institutions of collegiate grade must be admitted free of tuition including
6 mandatory fees and lab fees for associate's and bachelor's programs. The tuition
7 waiver provided under this paragraph may be reduced by an amount necessary to
8 ensure that the value of this waiver, combined with all other grants and benefits
9 received by the student, does not exceed the total cost of education. Room and board
10 may not be waived. A child of a veteran has 6 academic years from the date of first
11 entrance to complete ~~8 semesters~~ 120 credit hours. The director may waive the limit
12 of 6 consecutive academic years when the recipient's education has been interrupted
13 by severe medical disability ~~or~~, illness, learning disability or other hardship making
14 continued attendance impossible. Students must maintain at least a 2.0 or "C" grade
15 point average to continue receiving educational benefits. If a student's grade point
16 average falls below 2.0 or a "C," then the student has one semester to bring the grade
17 point average up to at least 2.0 or a "C." If after that semester the student's grade
18 point average is below 2.0 or a "C," the student loses educational benefits under this
19 paragraph until the student achieves a grade point average of at least 2.0 or a "C."

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill amends the laws governing postsecondary tuition waivers for the children of
22 certain veterans to provide that a child of a veteran has 6 academic years from the date of
23 first entrance to complete 120 credit hours. Current law provides that a child of a veteran
24 has 6 academic years from the date of first entrance to complete 8 semesters.

25 It adds a learning disability or other hardship to the circumstances under which the
26 Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services may waive the limit of 6 consecutive
27 academic years to complete the specified number of credit hours.