

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND Senate Substitute for Senate Bill No. 306, Page 4, Section 167.020, Line 101, by inserting
2 after all of said section and line the following:

3
4 "173.900. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Missouri Returning Heroes'
5 Education Act".

6 2. For the purpose of this section, the term "combat veteran" shall mean a person who
7 served in armed combat ~~[in the military after September 11, 2001]~~, which shall be shown through
8 military service documentation that reflects service in a combat theater, receipt of combat service
9 medals, or receipt of imminent danger or hostile fire pay or tax benefits, and to whom the following
10 criteria shall apply:

11 (1) The veteran ~~[was a Missouri resident when first entering the military]~~ is eligible to
12 register to vote in Missouri, or is eligible to vote, as determined by the Missouri secretary of state, or
13 is a current Missouri resident; and

14 (2) The veteran was discharged from military service under honorable conditions.

15 3. All public institutions of higher education that receive any state funds appropriated by the
16 general assembly shall limit the amount of tuition such institutions charge to combat veterans to
17 fifty dollars per credit hour, as long as the veteran achieves and maintains a cumulative grade point
18 average of at least two and one-half on a four-point scale, or its equivalent. The tuition limitation
19 shall only be applicable if the combat veteran is enrolled in a program leading to a certificate, or an
20 associate or baccalaureate degree. The period during which a combat veteran is eligible for a tuition
21 limitation under this section shall expire at the end of the ten-year period beginning on the date of
22 such veteran's last discharge from service.

23 4. All public institutions of higher education that receive any state funds appropriated by the
24 general assembly shall limit the amount of tuition such institutions charge to combat veterans to no
25 more than thirty percent of the cost of tuition and fees. The tuition limitation shall only be
26 applicable if the combat veteran is enrolled in a program leading to a graduate degree, including
27 master and doctorate degrees. For the purposes of this section, "graduate degree" shall not be
28 construed to include professional degrees. Professional degrees may include but are not limited to
29 law, medicine, or veterinary degrees. The period during which a combat veteran is eligible for a
30 tuition limitation under this section shall expire at the end of the twenty-year period beginning on
31 the date of such veteran's last discharge from service.

32 ~~[4.]~~ 5. The coordinating board for higher education shall ensure that all applicable
33 institutions of higher education in this state comply with the provisions of this section and may
34 promulgate rules for the efficient implementation of this section.

35 ~~[5.]~~ 6. If a combat veteran is eligible to receive financial assistance under any other federal
36 or state student aid program, public or private, the full amount of such aid shall be reported to the

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1 board by the institution and the veteran. The tuition limitation under this section ~~[shall]~~ may, at the
2 combat veteran's discretion, be provided before all other federal and state aid for which the veteran
3 is eligible has been applied. The public institution of higher education shall provide each combat
4 veteran with written notice of this option and maintain a copy signed by the veteran in their official
5 file.

6 ~~[6.]~~ 7. Each institution may report to the board the amount of tuition waived in the previous
7 fiscal year under the provisions of this act. This information may be included in each institution's
8 request for appropriations to the board for the following year. The board may include this
9 information in its appropriations recommendations to the governor and the general assembly. The
10 general assembly may reimburse institutions for the cost of the waiver for the previous year as part
11 of the operating budget. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to deny a combat veteran a
12 tuition limitation if the general assembly does not appropriate money for reimbursement to an
13 institution.

14 ~~[7.]~~ 8. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created
15 under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is
16 subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and
17 chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to
18 chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
19 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after
20 August 28, 2008, shall be invalid and void. "; and

21
22 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
23 accordingly.