

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 4

Approved by the Governor March 17, 2021

Introduced by Briese, 41; Sanders, 45; Bostelman, 23; Gragert, 40; Brewer, 43; Hunt, 8; Lowe, 37; Wishart, 27; Blood, 3; McCollister, 20; Hansen, M., 26; Pahls, 31; Aguilar, 35; Clements, 2; Slama, 1; Walz, 15; Dorn, 30; Bostar, 29; Halloran, 33; Morfeld, 46; Hilkemann, 4; Brandt, 32; Murman, 38; Moser, 22; Lindstrom, 18; Albrecht, 17; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Williams, 36; Vargas, 7; Arch, 14; Lathrop, 12; Pansing Brooks, 28; DeBoer, 10; Flood, 19; McDonnell, 5; Groene, 42; Erdman, 47; Hansen, B., 16; Geist, 25; Wayne, 13; Day, 49; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Stinner, 48; Kolterman, 24; Hughes, 44.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to servicemembers and veterans; to amend sections 80-901, 80-902, and 80-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions and qualification requirements relating to tuition credits; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 80-901, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

80-901 Any Nebraska resident who is a ~~an enlisted~~ member of a Nebraska-based unit of the Active Selected Reserve of the armed forces of the United States, who meets the requirements set forth in section 80-902 and complies with section 80-903, and who enrolls in any state-supported university, college, or community college in this state shall be entitled to a credit of (1) seventy-five percent of the resident tuition charges of such school for a diploma, certificate, associate degree, or baccalaureate degree program or (2) fifty percent of the resident tuition charges of such school for a graduate or professional degree program. ~~, on or after July 10, 1976, in any state-supported university or college, including any community college, shall be entitled to a credit of fifty percent of the tuition charges of such university or college. Such entitlement shall be continuous so long as the member maintains satisfactory service in the Active Selected Reserve and pursues a his course of study in a manner which satisfies the normal requirements of the university, or college, or community college.~~

Sec. 2. Section 80-902, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

80-902 (1) In order to qualify for the tuition credit provided for in section 80-901, a member of the Active Selected Reserve shall (1) be classified as enlisted personnel who have a minimum of two years remaining on their enlistment at the commencement of each term in their respective courses of study, (2) have agreed to serve a minimum of three years in the reserve, (3) not have completed his tenth year of total service in the armed forces of the United States, and (4) pursue a course of study leading to a diploma, certificate, associate degree, baccalaureate degree, graduate degree, or professional degree degree or the equivalent level of study in a community college, and his entitlement to such credit shall cease upon the attainment of such degree or completion of such course of study.  
~~(1) In order to qualify for the tuition credit provided for in section 80-901, a member of the Active Selected Reserve shall (1) be classified as enlisted personnel who have a minimum of two years remaining on their enlistment at the commencement of each term in their respective courses of study, (2) have agreed to serve a minimum of three years in the reserve, (3) not have completed his tenth year of total service in the armed forces of the United States, and (4) pursue a course of study leading to a diploma, certificate, associate degree, baccalaureate degree, graduate degree, or professional degree degree or the equivalent level of study in a community college, and his entitlement to such credit shall cease upon the attainment of such degree or completion of such course of study.~~

(2) There shall be no lifetime limit on tuition credit for any qualifying member.  
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(3) Such entitlement shall not be granted to more than two hundred individuals in any calendar year.  
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Sec. 3. Section 80-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

80-903 It shall be the responsibility of the individual member of the Active Selected Reserve to obtain a certificate from the member's ~~his~~ commanding officer attesting to the member's ~~his~~ satisfactory performance and to submit it to the Director of Veterans' Affairs who, if finding ~~he finds~~ that granting the entitlement will not exceed the limitation of new ~~new~~ entitlements provided in section 80-902, shall endorse the certificate of performance as approved and return it to the member for presentation to the college or university in order to obtain tuition credit upon initial enrollment. Such certification, without the necessity of endorsement by the Director of Veterans' Affairs, shall be accomplished and presented at the time of enrollment for each subsequent term for which tuition credit is requested.

Sec. 4. Original sections 80-901, 80-902, and 80-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.