

HOUSE BILL 2777

By Camper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to tuition preference for  
dependents of members of the military.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by  
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

49-7-1\_\_.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Dependent child" means a natural or adopted child or stepchild  
whom a military parent claims as a dependent for federal income tax purposes;  
provided, however, that the child is under twenty-four (24) years of age; and

(2) "Military parent" means a parent of a dependent child who is:

(A) A member of the armed forces engaged in active military  
service of the United States and stationed on active duty outside this  
state; or

(B) A member of the Tennessee national guard engaged in active  
military service of the United States and stationed on active duty outside  
this state.

(b) Every dependent child of a military parent who qualifies for in-state tuition at  
a public institution of higher education in either the board of regents' system or the  
University of Tennessee system shall receive a twenty-five percent (25%) discount on  
tuition to any public institution of higher education. Any child who is receiving the  
discount under this section, but whose parent dies during the time the child is enrolled  
and receiving the discount, is eligible to continue to receive the discount.

(c) The Tennessee higher education commission is directed, authorized and empowered to promulgate and adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement this section, including rules and regulations for the allocation of appropriations specifically appropriated for the implementation of this section. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(d) Any reimbursements to a public institution of higher education for the tuition discounts granted under this section shall be limited to those funds specifically appropriated for that purpose in the general appropriations act. Reimbursement shall be limited to providing the discount on tuition.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.