18A:62-24

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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	Complied by the NJ	State Law Library		
LAWS OF:	2001 CHAPTER: 427			
NJSA:	18A:62-24 (National Guard—tuition)			
BILL NO:	A3884 (Substituted for S2640/2667)			
	PONSOR(S): Smith and Lance			
DATE INTRODUCED: November 8, 2001				
COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Commerce; Appropriations				
SENATE:				
AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No				
DATE OF P				
	SENATE: January 7, 20	102		
DATE OF APPROVAL: January 8, 2002				
FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:				
FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Original version of bill enacted)				
A38				
	SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 2	of original bill)	Yes	
	COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY:	Yes	12-13-2001(Commerce)
				12-20-2001(Appropr.)
		SENATE:	No	
	FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:		No	
	LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:		No	
S2640/2667				
	SPONSORS STATEMENT (S2640): (Begins o	n page 2 of original bill)	Yes	
	SPONSORS STATEMENT (S2667): (Begins o		Yes	
	COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY:	No	
		SENATE:	Yes	12-13-2001(Education)
		SENATE.	165	1-3-2002(Budget)
	FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:		Yes	
	LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:		No	
	FINAL VERSION (Senate Committee Substit	ute, 2 nd Reprint):	Yes	
			No	
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:			No	
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:				
To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government				
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REPORTS:			No	
HE	ARINGS:		No	
NE\	VSPAPER ARTICLES:		No	

ASSEMBLY, No. 3884 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2001

Sponsored by: Assemblyman BOB SMITH District 17 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union) Assemblyman LEONARD LANCE District 23 (Warren, Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Green, Biondi, Assemblywoman Buono, Assemblymen Barnes, Wisniewski, Suliga, Conners, Azzolina, Charles, Guear, Assemblywoman Greenstein, Assemblymen R.Smith, Roberts, Bateman, Assemblywoman Cruz-Perez, Assemblyman Zisa, Assemblywoman Weinberg, Assemblyman Conaway, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblymen Sires, Geist, Assemblywomen Friscia, Gill, Assemblymen Gusciora, Impreveduto, LeFevre, Assemblywoman Myers, Assemblyman Asselta, Senators Kavanaugh, Lynch and Bennett

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates certain requirement applicable to members of the New Jersey National Guard who receive higher education tuition waivers and requires State to pay the tuition costs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/8/2002)

2

AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members 1 2 of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46. 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read 8 as follows: 9 21. a. Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be 10 permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public 11 institution of higher education in this State enumerated in 12 N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free provided that: 13 14 [a.] (1) the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training and is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey National 15 16 Guard; 17 [b.] (2) the member has been accepted to pursue a course of 18 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in 19 good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and 20 21 [c.] (3) the member has applied for all available State student 22 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and scholarships for which the member is eligible [; and 23 24 d. available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course]. 25 b. The State shall reimburse a public institution of higher education 26 27 for the tuition cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the 28 institution pursuant to the provisions of this section. 29 (cf: P.L.2001, c.9, s.1) 30 31 2. This act shall take effect immediately. 32 33 34 **STATEMENT** 35 This bill deletes the requirement that a member of the New Jersey 36 37 National Guard who applies to attend a public institution of higher 38 education in the State and receive up to 15 credits per semester 39 tuition-free will be admitted only if available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required 40 41 for the course. The bill also requires the State to reimburse an 42 institution for the cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in 43 the institution and receives the tuition-free credits.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in **bold-faced** brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE, TOURISM, GAMING AND MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3884

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 13, 2001

The Assembly Commerce, Tourism, Gaming and Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Assembly, No. 3884.

Under current law, a member of the New Jersey National Guard is entitled to up to 15 credit hours tuition-free for undergraduate study or graduate study at a public institution of higher education, provided that there is available classroom space to accommodate the member and that tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course.

This bill eliminates the space-available requirement, and the requirement that tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course. The bill also requires the State to reimburse an institution for the cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the institution and receives the tuition-free credits.

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3884

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 20, 2001

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3884.

Assembly Bill No. 3884 deletes the requirement that a member of the New Jersey National Guard who applies to attend a public institution of higher education in the State and receives up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free will be admitted only if available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course.

The bill also requires the State to reimburse an institution for the cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the institution and receives the tuition-free credits.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to information obtained through the New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities, the total cost of tuition in all State colleges and universities of qualified National Guard enrollment for the 2001-2002 school year is estimated at \$2.4 million. That is representative of the amount that, under current law, the State will be required to reimburse under this bill. No information is available to indicate the additional tuition amounts, if any, that would become reimbursable under the less restrictive admission rules of the bill.

SENATE, No. 2640

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2001

Sponsored by: Senator WALTER J. KAVANAUGH District 16 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates certain requirement applicable to members of the New Jersey National Guard who receive higher education tuition waivers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members 2 of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46. 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read 8 as follows: 9 21. Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be 10 permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public 11 institution of higher education in this State enumerated in 12 N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free provided that: 13 14 a. the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training and is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey National Guard; 15 the member has been accepted to pursue a course of 16 b. 17 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in 18 good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is 19 enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and 20 c. the member has applied for all available State student grants and 21 scholarships and all available federal student grants and scholarships 22 for which the member is eligible [; and 23 d. available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course]. 24 (cf: P.L.2001, c.9, s.1) 25 26 27 2. This act shall take effect immediately. 28 29 30 **STATEMENT** 31 32 This bill deletes the requirement that if members of the New Jersey National Guard attend public institutions of higher education in the 33 State and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free, they will 34 be admitted only if available classroom space permits and 35 tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for 36 the course. 37

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

SENATE, No. 2667 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2001

Sponsored by: Senator JOHN A. LYNCH District 17 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union) Senator JOHN O. BENNETT District 12 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates certain requirement applicable to members of the New Jersey National Guard who receive higher education tuition waivers and requires State to pay the tuition costs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



2

AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members 1 2 of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46. 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read 8 as follows: 9 21. <u>a.</u> Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be 10 permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public 11 institution of higher education in this State enumerated in 12 N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free provided that: 13 14 [a.] (1) the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training and is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey National 15 16 Guard; 17 [b.] (2) the member has been accepted to pursue a course of 18 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in 19 good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and 20 21 [c.] (3) the member has applied for all available State student 22 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and scholarships for which the member is eligible [; and 23 d. available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students 24 constitute the minimum number required for the course]. 25 b. The State shall reimburse a public institution of higher education 26 27 for the tuition cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the 28 institution pursuant to the provisions of this section. 29 (cf: P.L.2001, c.9, s.1) 30 31 2. This act shall take effect immediately. 32 33 **STATEMENT** 34 35 This bill deletes the requirement that a member of the New Jersey National Guard who applies to attend a public institution of higher 36 education in the State and receive up to 15 credits per semester 37 38 tuition-free will be admitted only if available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required 39 40 for the course. The bill also requires the State to reimburse an 41 institution for the cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in 42 the institution and receives the tuition-free credits.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in **bold-faced** brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, Nos. 2640 and 2667

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

ADOPTED DECEMBER 13, 2001

Sponsored by: Senator WALTER J. KAVANAUGH District 16 (Morris and Somerset) Senator JOHN A. LYNCH District 17 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union) Senator JOHN O. BENNETT District 12 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates certain requirement applicable to members of the New Jersey National Guard who receive higher education tuition waivers and requires State to pay the tuition costs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Substitute as adopted by the Senate Education Committee.



1 AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members 2 of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46. 3 4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read 7 8 as follows: 9 21. a. Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be 10 permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public institution of higher education in this State enumerated in 11 12 N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free 13 provided that: 14 [a.] (1) the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training 15 and is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey National Guard; 16 17 [b.] (2) the member has been accepted to pursue a course of 18 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in 19 good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is 20 enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and 21 [c.] (3) the member has applied for all available State student 22 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and 23 scholarships for which the member is eligible[; and 24 d. available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students 25 constitute the minimum number required for the course]. The State shall reimburse a public institution of higher 26 27 education for the tuition cost of each National Guard member who 28 enrolls in the institution pursuant to the provisions of this section. (cf: P.L.2001, c.9, s.1) 29 30 2. This act shall take effect immediately. 31

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, Nos. 2640 and 2667

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 13, 2001

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports an Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill Nos. 2640 and 2667.

This committee substitute deletes the requirement that a member of the New Jersey National Guard who applies to attend a public institution of higher education in the State and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free will be admitted only if available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course. The substitute also requires the State to reimburse an institution for the cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the institution and receives the tuition-free credits.

The Senate Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill Nos. 2640 and 2667.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, Nos. 2640 and 2667

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 3, 2002

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill Nos. 2640 and 2667 (SCS).

This bill limits the application of certain conditions on the right of New Jersey National Guard members to receive higher education tuition waivers.

New Jersey law allows an active member in good standing of the New Jersey National Guard who has completed initial active duty training to attend regularly scheduled courses at a public institution of higher education in the State and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free. Currently, the right of a qualified Guard member to attend a particular course at such an institution is conditional upon (1) the availability of classroom space, and (2) whether tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course. Under the bill, these two conditions would apply only in a fiscal year for which no specific appropriation is made to cover the cost of the tuition waivers.

The bill includes an explicit provision requiring the State to reimburse an institution for the cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the institution and receives the tuition-free credits.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Committee amendments provide that in any State fiscal year in which an adequate and specific State appropriation is not made to reimburse public institutions of higher education for the tuition costs of each National Guard member, the tuition-free course credits shall be allowed if available space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for a course.

FISCAL IMPACT

According to information obtained through the New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities, the total cost of tuition in all State colleges and universities of qualified National Guard enrollment for the 2001-2002 school year is estimated at \$2.4 million. This figure represents the amount that, under current waiver eligibility rules, the State will be required by this bill to reimburse to public colleges and universities for qualified Guard members' attendance at those schools.

No information is available to indicate the additional tuition amounts, if any, that would become reimbursable under the less restrictive admission rules of the bill. [First Reprint]

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, Nos. 2640 and 2667

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

ADOPTED DECEMBER 13, 2001

Sponsored by: Senator WALTER J. KAVANAUGH District 16 (Morris and Somerset) Senator JOHN A. LYNCH District 17 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union) Senator JOHN O. BENNETT District 12 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates classroom space condition on allowance of New Jersey National Guard higher education tuition waivers when funding has been appropriated; requires State to reimburse waiver costs to higher education institutions.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on January 3, 2002, with amendments.



2

AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members 1 2 of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46. 3 4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read 8 as follows: 9 21. a. Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be 10 permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public 11 institution of higher education in this State enumerated in 12 N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free provided that: 13 14 [a.] (1) the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training and is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey 15 16 National Guard; 17 [b.] (2) the member has been accepted to pursue a course of 18 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in 19 good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and 20 21 [c.] (3) the member has applied for all available State student 22 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and 23 scholarships for which the member is eligible[; and 24 d. available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course]. 25 26 ¹In any fiscal year for which adequate State funding has been 27 specifically appropriated therefor, the allowance of tuition-free credit 28 under this subsection shall be without regard to classroom space or 29 course enrollment; but if no such State funding shall have been 30 appropriated for that fiscal year, such credit shall be allowed only if 31 available space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the 32 minimum number required for the course.¹ b. The State shall reimburse a public institution of higher 33 34 education for the tuition cost of each National Guard member who 35 enrolls in the institution pursuant to the provisions of this section. 36 (cf: P.L.2001, c.9, s.1) 37 38 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SBA committee amendments adopted January 3, 2002.

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, Nos. 2640 and 2667

with Senate Floor Amendments (Proposed By Senator BENNETT)

ADOPTED: JANUARY 7, 2002

The floor amendment removes the paragraph which would provide that in any fiscal year for which adequate State funding has been specifically appropriated therefor, the allowance of tuition-free credit under the bill shall be without regard to classroom space or course enrollment.

[Second Reprint]

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **SENATE, Nos. 2640 and 2667**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

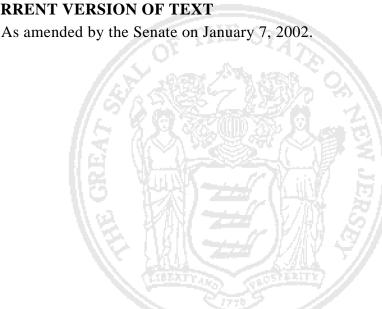
ADOPTED DECEMBER 13, 2001

Sponsored by: Senator WALTER J. KAVANAUGH **District 16 (Morris and Somerset)** Senator JOHN A. LYNCH **District 17 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union) Senator JOHN O. BENNETT District 12 (Monmouth)**

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates certain requirement applicable to members of the New Jersey National Guard who receive higher education tuition waivers and requires State to pay the tuition costs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT



2

AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members 1 2 of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46. 3 4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read 8 as follows: 9 21. a. Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be 10 permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public 11 institution of higher education in this State enumerated in 12 N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free provided that: 13 14 [a.] (1) the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training and is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey 15 16 National Guard; 17 [b.] (2) the member has been accepted to pursue a course of 18 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in 19 good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and 20 21 [c.] (3) the member has applied for all available State student 22 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and 23 scholarships for which the member is eligible[; and 24 d. available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course]. 25 ²[¹In any fiscal year for which adequate State funding has been 26 27 specifically appropriated therefor, the allowance of tuition-free credit 28 under this subsection shall be without regard to classroom space or 29 course enrollment; but if no such State funding shall have been appropriated for that fiscal year, such credit shall be allowed only if 30 31 available space permits and tuition-paying students constitute the 32 minimum number required for the course.¹]² b. The State shall reimburse a public institution of higher 33 34 education for the tuition cost of each National Guard member who 35 enrolls in the institution pursuant to the provisions of this section. (cf: P.L.2001, c.9, s.1) 36 37 38 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in **bold-faced** brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

Senate SBA committee amendments adopted January 3, 2002.

² Senate floor amendments adopted January 7, 2002.

P.L. 2001, CHAPTER 427, *approved January 8, 2002* Assembly, No. 3884

1 AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members 2 of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46. 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read as follows: 8 9 21. a. Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be 10 permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public institution of higher education in this State enumerated in 11 N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free 12 provided that: 13 14 [a.] (1) the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training and 15 is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey National Guard: 16 17 [b.] (2) the member has been accepted to pursue a course of 18 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is 19 20 enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and 21 [c.] (3) the member has applied for all available State student 22 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and 23 scholarships for which the member is eligible [; and 24 d. available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students 25 constitute the minimum number required for the course]. 26 b. The State shall reimburse a public institution of higher education 27 for the tuition cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the institution pursuant to the provisions of this section. 28 29 (cf: P.L.2001, c.9, s.1) 30 2. This act shall take effect immediately. 31 32 33 34 **STATEMENT** 35 This bill deletes the requirement that a member of the New Jersey 36 National Guard who applies to attend a public institution of higher 37 education in the State and receive up to 15 credits per semester 38 39 tuition-free will be admitted only if available classroom space permits 40 and tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required 41 for the course. The bill also requires the State to reimburse an 42 institution for the cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

1 the institution and receives the tuition-free credits.

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- 6 Eliminates certain requirement applicable to members of the New
- 7 Jersey National Guard who receive higher education tuition waivers
- 8 and requires State to pay the tuition costs.

CHAPTER 427

AN ACT concerning higher education tuition assistance for members of the New Jersey National Guard and amending P.L.1999, c.46.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. Section 21 of P.L.1999, c.46 (C.18A:62-24) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:62-24 Tuition benefits for members of New Jersey National Guard; State payment.

21. a. Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be permitted to attend regularly-scheduled courses at any public institution of higher education in this State enumerated in N.J.S.18A:62-1 and receive up to 15 credits per semester tuition-free provided that:

(1) the member has completed Initial Active Duty Training and is in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey National Guard;

(2) the member has been accepted to pursue a course of undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in good standing at that institution or a course of graduate study and is enrolled as a graduate student in good standing at that institution; and

(3) the member has applied for all available State student grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and scholarships for which the member is eligible.

b. The State shall reimburse a public institution of higher education for the tuition cost of each National Guard member who enrolls in the institution pursuant to the provisions of this section.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 8, 2002.