

STATE OF NEW YORK

5456

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 5, 2021

Introduced by Sen. BAILEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to allowing veterans to transfer their benefits under the veterans tuition awards program to their dependents

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 669-a of the education law is
2 amended by adding a new paragraph g to read as follows:

3 g. "Eligible dependent" means a person who is: (i) a resident of this
4 state, (ii) the spouse or child of an eligible combat veteran, as
5 defined in paragraphs a through d of this subdivision, and (iii)
6 enrolled, pursuant to paragraph a of subdivision four of section six
7 hundred sixty-one of this part, in approved undergraduate or graduate
8 programs at degree granting institutions or enrolled in approved voca-
9 tional training programs and who apply for a tuition assistance program
10 award pursuant to section six hundred sixty-seven of this subpart.

11 § 2. Section 669-a of the education law is amended by adding a new
12 subdivision 5 to read as follows:

13 5. a. A veteran who would be eligible to receive tuition awards if he
14 or she satisfied the enrollment and application requirements set forth
15 in paragraph a of subdivision two of this section, may elect to transfer
16 all or a portion of the tuition award such veteran would have received
17 to any one or more of such veteran's eligible dependents.

18 b. A veteran who elects to transfer his or her award shall designate
19 the eligible dependent or dependents to whom such award is being trans-
20 ferred and the number of months such transfer shall be effective for
21 each such dependent. Such designation shall be made on a form prescribed
22 by the commissioner and shall be appended to the application specified
23 in subdivision two of this section.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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- 1 c. No eligible dependent to whom a transfer has been made pursuant to
- 2 this subdivision shall receive a tuition award in excess of the award
- 3 available to an individual veteran under this section.
- 4 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.