S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

2944

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

March 6, 2009

Introduced by Sen. NOZZOLIO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to providing tuition awards to children of firefighters, police officers, volunteer firefighters, and emergency medical technicians with permanent and total disabilities

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 669-e to read as follows:

S 669-E. TUITION AWARDS FOR CHILDREN OF FIREFIGHTERS, POLICE OFFICERS, VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS WITH PERMANENT AND TOTAL DISABILITIES. 1. ELIGIBILITY. A CHILD WHOSE PARENT IS A FIREFIGHTER, POLICE OFFICER, VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER, OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR PERMANENT AND TOTAL DISABILITY BENEFITS, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A TUITION AWARD TO BE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES CORPORATION. SUCH TUITION AWARD MAY BE APPLIED TO ANY COLLEGE, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, OR THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK.

2. AMOUNT. THE TUITION AWARD SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE COST OF UNDERGRADUATE TUITION, OFFSET BY ANY OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OR AWARD RECEIVED. IF A TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP) AWARD IS ALSO RECEIVED, THE COMBINED ACADEMIC YEAR AWARD SHALL NOT EXCEED TUITION.

3. DURATION. (A) NO RECIPIENT OF A TUITION AWARD UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL RECEIVE A TUITION AWARD FOR MORE THAN EIGHT SEMESTERS OF FULL TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDY, OR THE EQUIVALENT OF FOUR ACADEMIC YEARS, OR, IF AN UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM NORMALLY REQUIRES FIVE ACADEMIC YEARS OF FULL TIME STUDY, FOR MORE THAN TEN SEMESTERS OF FULL TIME STUDY, OR THE EQUIVALENT OF FIVE ACADEMIC YEARS. "FULL TIME STUDY" SHALL MEAN ENROLLMENT FOR MORE THAN TWELVE SEMESTER HOURS PER SEMESTER, OR THE EQUIVALENT, IN AN APPROVED UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM.

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

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(B) NO RECIPIENT OF A TUITION AWARD UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL RECEIVE A TUITION AWARD FOR MORE THAN SIXTEEN SEMESTERS OF PART TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDY, OR THE EQUIVALENT OF EIGHT ACADEMIC YEARS OF PART TIME STUDY, OR, IF AN UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM NORMALLY REQUIRES FIVE ACADEMIC YEARS OF FULL TIME STUDY, FOR MORE THAN TWENTY SEMESTERS OF PART TIME STUDY, OR THE EQUIVALENT OF TEN ACADEMIC YEARS. "PART TIME STUDY" SHALL MEAN ENROLLMENT FOR AT LEAST THREE BUT LESS THAN TWELVE SEMESTER HOURS PER SEMESTER, OR THE EQUIVALENT, IN AN APPROVED UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM.

4. APPLICABILITY OF AWARDS. TUITION AWARDS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL ONLY BE AVAILABLE WITHIN THE STATE OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OR THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.