

6480--A

I N   S E N A T E

January 19, 2016

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Introduced by Sen. RITCHIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to granting academic credit at state operated institutions of the state university of New York and the senior colleges of the city university of New York to veterans, members of the military, and reservists

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

- 1     Section 1. Section 350 of the education law is amended by adding three  
2 new subdivisions 14, 15 and 16 to read as follows:  
3     14. "VETERAN" MEANS A PERSON, MALE OR FEMALE, RESIDENT OF THIS STATE,  
4 WHO HAS SERVED IN THE ACTIVE MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED  
5 STATES DURING A WAR IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES ENGAGED AND WHO HAS BEEN  
6 RELEASED FROM SUCH SERVICE BY ANY MEANS OTHER THAN BY DISHONORABLE  
7 DISCHARGE, OR WHO HAS BEEN FURLOUGHED TO THE RESERVE.  
8     15. "MEMBER OF THE MILITARY" MEANS ANY PERSON WHO IS ACTIVELY ENROLLED  
9 IN A BRANCH OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.  
10    16. "RESERVIST" MEANS ANY PERSON WHO IS A MEMBER OF A RESERVE COMPO-  
11 NENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.  
12    S 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 362 to read  
13 as follows:  
14    S 362. COURSE CREDIT FOR VETERANS, MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY, AND RESER-  
15 VISTS. 1. EVERY VETERAN, MEMBER OF THE MILITARY, OR RESERVIST, AS  
16 DEFINED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY OF THIS ARTICLE, WHO IS ENROLLED  
17 ON A FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME BASIS AS AN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT IN GOOD  
18 STANDING AT AN INSTITUTION WITHIN THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM SHALL,  
19 UPON APPLICATION, BE GRANTED UP TO SIX ACADEMIC CREDITS PER YEAR AND  
20 SIXTY CREDITS IN THE AGGREGATE TOWARDS HIS OR HER DEGREE FOR COMPLETION  
21 OF COURSES THAT WERE PART OF SUCH PERSON'S MILITARY TRAINING OR SERVICE  
22 IF THE COMPLETED COURSES MEET THE STANDARDS OF THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON

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

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1 EDUCATION OR ITS EQUIVALENT FOR THE AWARDING OF ACADEMIC CREDITS. NO  
2 FEE, TUITION OR OTHER CHARGE SHALL BE ASSESSED AGAINST A VETERAN, MEMBER  
3 OF THE MILITARY, OR RESERVIST, WHO QUALIFIES FOR SUCH CREDIT PURSUANT TO  
4 THIS SECTION.

5 2. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY SHALL ADOPT SUCH  
6 PROCEDURES AS ARE NECESSARY TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS  
7 SECTION.

8 S 3. Section 6202 of the education law is amended by adding three new  
9 subdivisions 10, 11 and 12 to read as follows:

10 10. THE TERM "VETERAN" MEANS A PERSON, MALE OR FEMALE, RESIDENT OF  
11 THIS STATE, WHO HAS SERVED IN THE ACTIVE MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE OF  
12 THE UNITED STATES DURING A WAR IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES ENGAGED AND  
13 WHO HAS BEEN RELEASED FROM SUCH SERVICE BY ANY MEANS OTHER THAN BY  
14 DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE, OR WHO HAS BEEN FURLOUGHED TO THE RESERVE.

15 11. THE TERM "MEMBER OF THE MILITARY" MEANS ANY PERSON WHO IS ACTIVELY  
16 ENROLLED IN A BRANCH OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

17 12. THE TERM "RESERVIST" MEANS ANY PERSON WHO IS A MEMBER OF A RESERVE  
18 COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

19 S 4. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6217 to read  
20 as follows:

21 S 6217. COURSE CREDIT FOR VETERANS, MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY, AND  
22 RESERVISTS. 1. EVERY VETERAN, MEMBER OF THE MILITARY, OR RESERVIST, AS  
23 DEFINED IN SECTION SIXTY-TWO HUNDRED TWO OF THIS ARTICLE, WHO IS  
24 ENROLLED ON A FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME BASIS AS AN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT  
25 IN GOOD STANDING AT AN INSTITUTION WITHIN THE CITY UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
26 SHALL, UPON APPLICATION, BE GRANTED UP TO SIX ACADEMIC CREDITS PER YEAR  
27 AND SIXTY CREDITS IN THE AGGREGATE TOWARDS HIS OR HER DEGREE FOR  
28 COMPLETION OF COURSES THAT WERE PART OF SUCH PERSON'S MILITARY TRAINING  
29 OR SERVICE IF THE COMPLETED COURSES MEET THE STANDARDS OF THE AMERICAN  
30 COUNCIL ON EDUCATION OR ITS EQUIVALENT FOR THE AWARDING OF ACADEMIC  
31 CREDITS. NO FEE, TUITION OR OTHER CHARGE SHALL BE ASSESSED AGAINST A  
32 VETERAN, MEMBER OF THE MILITARY, OR RESERVIST, WHO QUALIFIES FOR SUCH  
33 CREDIT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

34 2. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SHALL  
35 ADOPT SUCH PROCEDURES AS ARE NECESSARY TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS  
36 OF THIS SECTION.

37 S 5. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding  
38 the date on which it shall have become a law.