STATE OF NEW YORK

2579

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 21, 2025

Introduced by Sen. ORTT -- 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 the recruitment incentive and retention program for members of the New York state organized militia, reducing the minimum required course load for part-time students and permitting application for the tuition benefit prior to matriculation

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

Section 1. Paragraph e of subdivision 3 of section 669-b of the education law, as added by chapter 268 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

e. The term "part-time study" shall mean enrollment in an approved post-secondary degree program for at least [~~six~~] **three** but less than twelve semester hours, or the equivalent per semester, or at least [~~four~~] **two** but less than eight semester hours per quarter in an institution.

§ 2. Section 669-b of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 3-a to read as follows:

3-a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general, special, or local law, rule, or regulation, any active member may apply for the tuition benefit provided by this section prior to matriculating at an institution.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on and after April 1, 2025, provided, however, that the amendments to section 669-b of the education law made by sections one and two of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.

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

LBD06859-01-5