

STATE OF NEW YORK

9235

IN SENATE

February 18, 2026

Introduced by Sen. SCARCELLA-SPANTON -- read twice and ordered printed,
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Home-
land Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to eligibility for mili-
tary enhanced recognition, incentive and tribute ("MERIT") scholar-
ships

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

1 Section 1. Section 668-e of the education law is amended by adding a
2 new subdivision 3 to read as follows:

3 3. Severely and permanently disabled. For the purposes of this
4 section, an individual is severely and permanently disabled when a
5 doctor of medicine or osteopathy, licensed to practice in a state, has
6 determined that such person is either:

7 a. unable to engage in any occupation for substantial gainful activity
8 due to a physical or mental impairment; or

9 b. unable to engage in any occupation for remuneration or profit due
10 to a physical or mental impairment.

11 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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