

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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SENATE BILL 424
Judiciary II Committee Substitute Adopted 4/16/03
House Committee Substitute Favorable 5/28/03

Short Title: Tuition Waiver Correction.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 17, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING TUITION WAIVERS AND TO
DIRECT THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
TO STUDY WHETHER TO EXTEND THESE TUITION WAIVERS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Section 6 of S.L. 1997-505 reads as rewritten:

"Section 6. This act becomes effective ~~October 1, 1997, and applies to deaths or disabilities occurring July 1, 2003, and applies to persons enrolled in constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and community colleges on or after that date.~~"

SECTION 2. G.S. 115B-2 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115B-2. Tuition waiver authorized.

~~State supported institutions of higher education, community colleges, industrial education centers and technical institutes,~~

(a) The constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and the community colleges as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2) shall permit the following persons to attend classes for credit or noncredit purposes without the required payment of ~~tuition;~~ tuition; ~~provided, however, that such persons meet admission and other standards deemed appropriate by the educational institution, and provided further that such persons shall be accepted by the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina only on a spaces available basis;~~

- (1) Legal residents of North Carolina who have attained the age of 65.
- (2) Any person who is the survivor of a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker killed as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty.
- (3) The spouse of a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker who is permanently and totally

1 disabled as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of
2 duty.

- 3 (4) Any child, if the child is at least 17 years old but not yet 23 years old,
4 whose parent is a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer
5 firefighter, or rescue squad worker who is permanently and totally
6 disabled as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of
7 duty. However, a child's eligibility for a waiver of tuition under this
8 Chapter shall not exceed: (i) 48 months, if the child is seeking a
9 baccalaureate degree, or (ii) if the child is not seeking a baccalaureate
10 degree, the number of months required to complete the educational
11 program to which the child is applying.

12 (b) Persons eligible for the tuition waiver under subsection (a) of this section
13 must meet admission and other standards considered appropriate by the educational
14 institution. In addition, the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina
15 shall accept these persons only on a space available basis."

16 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 115B-3 reads as rewritten:

17 "**§ 115B-3. ~~Rules and regulations.~~ Rules.**

18 The Board of Governors of ~~the~~ The University of North Carolina and the State
19 Board of ~~Education~~ Community Colleges shall each, with respect to the institutions
20 governed by it, promulgate rules ~~and regulations~~ necessary for the implementation of
21 ~~the provisions of this Chapter."~~

22 **SECTION 4.** The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall
23 study whether to extend the tuition waivers under Chapter 115B of the General Statutes.
24 In particular, the Committee shall consider whether the waivers should be made
25 available (i) to law enforcement officers, firefighters, volunteer firefighters, or rescue
26 squad workers who are permanently and totally disabled as a direct result of a traumatic
27 injury sustained in the line of duty and (ii) to their children, regardless of the age of the
28 children either at the time of the injury or enrollment. The Committee shall report to the
29 General Assembly by April 15, 2004, on its findings and recommendations.

30 **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.