
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Carol Liu, Chair
2015 - 2016 Regular

Bill No: AB 1936
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Version: February 12, 2016
Urgency: No
Consultant: Kathleen Chavira
Hearing Date: June 8, 2016
Fiscal: Yes

Subject: Public postsecondary education: residency: dependents of armed forces members

SUMMARY

This bill expands the current eligibility for resident classification extended to enrolled dependents of an Armed Forces member who transfer or retires to include admitted dependents of the Armed Forces member, for purposes of determining postsecondary institution tuition and fees.

BACKGROUND

Existing law entitles a student who is a natural or adopted child, stepchild, or spouse who is a dependent of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty to resident classification only for the purpose of determining the amount of tuition and fees.

Existing law prohibits such a dependent from losing resident classification if the Armed Forces member is thereafter transferred on military orders to a place outside this state or thereafter retires as an active member of the Armed Forces, as long as the student remains continuously enrolled at that institution. (Education Code § 68074)

ANALYSIS

This bill:

- 1) Expands the current eligibility for resident classification extended to enrolled dependents of an Armed Forces member who transfer or retires to include admitted dependents of an Armed Forces member who transfers or retires.
- 2) Requests that the University of California (UC) establish these same residency benefits for UC enrolled students.
- 3) Identifies potential state mandated costs, likely as a result of the application of the bill's provisions to the California Community Colleges.

STAFF COMMENTS

Need for the bill. Current law provides that in-state residency classification of the dependent of an Armed Forces member is contingent upon attendance and continuous

enrollment at the institution. This bill would additionally authorize resident classification at the time of admission to ensure that a dependent does not lose the benefit of in-state residency if their sponsor is re-assigned by the military prior to the dependent beginning to attend classes.

SUPPORT

America G.I. Forum of California
American Legion-Department of California
AMVETS – Department of California
Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges
California Council of Chapters
California State University
Military Officers Association of America
National Association of Social Workers, California Chapter
North Orange County Community College District
VFW – Department of California
Vietnam Veterans of America, California State Council

OPPOSITION

None received.

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