

HCS HB 1482 -- NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

SPONSOR: Jackson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Veterans by a vote of 8 to 0.

Currently, recipients of National Guard educational grants must maintain their military affiliation for three years after graduation or repay the amount they received. This substitute removes this requirement and instead requires that they maintain their active military affiliation while enrolled in a semester or session. If the active military affiliation is not maintained, the educational assistance will be terminated and the recipient will be required to repay amounts awarded for the semester or session.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009. Estimated Cost on Other State Funds of \$82,000 in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that many people who sign up for the national guard or reserves do so for the educational benefit; but while they're in school, they're often called to active duty. Currently, these men and women do not receive credit for their time spent on active duty. The bill changes this oversight so that they receive credit for their active-duty service.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Jackson; and Pat Kerr.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst