

HCS HB 400 -- MISSOURI RETURNING HEROES ACT (Basye)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Veterans

Currently, the Missouri Returning Heroes Act caps undergraduate tuition at \$50 per credit hour before federal and state aid for combat veterans that served after September 11, 2001, that were residents of Missouri before entering service at public institutions of higher education for 10 years after a honorable discharge.

This bill would expand the act to include combat veterans that served prior to September 11, 2001 and combat veterans who are eligible to register to vote in Missouri, registered to vote in Missouri, or are current Missouri residents.

Additionally, this bill would place a cap of 30% on tuition and fees for qualified combat veterans pursuing graduate degrees, but not professional degrees, for a period of 20 years after an honorable discharge.

This bill also makes it so the cap may be applied before all federal and state aid is applied to tuition, at the combat veteran's discretion.

Finally, this bill defines how a combat veteran can show their combat service for the purpose of using the Missouri Returning Heroes Act.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 1368 (2018).