FIRST ENGROSSMENT

Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2225

Introduced by

Senators Dever, Marcellais

Representatives Magrum, Meier, Tveit

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 15-10-18.6 of the North Dakota Century Code,
- 2 relating to providing reduced tuition and fee charges in North Dakota institutions of higher
- 3 education for dependents of disabled veterans; and to provide an appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. Section 15-10-18.6 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted
 as follows:
 <u>15-10-18.6. Reduced tuition in North Dakota institutions of higher education.</u>
 <u>1. As used in this section:</u>
 <u>a. "Dependent" means a child, stepchild, spouse, widow, or widower of a resident</u>
 veteran, as "veteran" is defined in section 37-01-40, who:

- 11(1)Has a service-connected disability rating of at least fifty percent but no more12than ninety-nine percent, as determined by the department of veterans'13affairs; or
- 14 (2) Has an extra-schedular rating to include individual unemployability that
 15 brings the veteran's total disability rating to at least fifty percent but not more
 16 than ninety-nine percent, as determined by the department of veterans'
 17 affairs.

18 b. "Resident veteran" has the same meaning as provided under section 15-10-18.2.

- 19 <u>2.</u> <u>Any dependent upon being duly accepted for enrollment into any undergraduate</u>
- 20 degree or certificate program of a North Dakota state institution of higher education is
- 21 <u>entitled to obtain a bachelor's degree or certificate of completion, for so long as the</u>
- 22 dependent is eligible, at reduced tuition and fee charges provided the bachelor's
- 23 degree or certificate of completion is earned within a forty-five-month or ten-semester

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1	period or its equivalent. For purposes of this section, tuition and fee charges do not			
2		include costs for aviation flight charges or expenses.		
3	<u>3.</u>	A dependent is entitled to the following reduction in tuition and fees under		
4		subsection 2:		
5		<u>a.</u>	A fifty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability	
6			rating of at least fifty percent but not more than fifty-nine percent;	
7		<u>b.</u>	A sixty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability	
8			rating of at least sixty percent but not more than sixty-nine percent;	
9		<u>C.</u>	A seventy percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected	
10			disability rating of at least seventy percent but not more than seventy-nine	
11			percent;	
12		<u>d.</u>	An eighty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected	
13			disability rating of at least eighty percent but not more than eighty-nine percent;	
14			<u>or</u>	
15		<u>e.</u>	Ninety percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability	
16			rating of at least ninety percent but not more than ninety-nine percent.	
17	SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general			
18	fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$3,800,000, or so much of the			
19	sum as may be necessary, to the state board of higher education for the purpose of providing			
20	reduced tuition and fees to a dependent of a disabled resident veteran, for the biennium			
21	beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023.			