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## HOUSE BILL NO. 2261

Offered January 23, 1995

A BILL to amend and reenact § 23-7.1:01 of the Code of Virginia, relating to free tuition and fees for certain individuals.

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Patron—Brickley

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Referred to Committee on Education

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 23-7.1:01 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 23-7.1:01. Free tuition and required fees for certain individuals.

A. Any child between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five whose parent or any person whose spouse has been killed in the line of duty while employed or serving as a law-enforcement officer, a firefighter, a member of a rescue squad, a sworn law-enforcement officer, a special agent of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, a state correctional, regional or local jail officer, a sheriff, a deputy sheriff, or a member of the Virginia National Guard while such member is serving in the Virginia National Guard or as a member of the United States Armed Forces, shall be entitled to free undergraduate tuition and required fees at any public institution of higher education in Virginia under the following conditions:

1. The chief administrative officer of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, emergency medical services agency, law-enforcement agency, or other appropriate agency or the Superintendent of State Police certifies that the deceased parent or spouse was employed or serving as a law-enforcement officer or a firefighter or member of a rescue squad or in any other capacity as specified in this section and was killed in the line of duty while serving or living in the Commonwealth; and

2. The child or spouse shall have been offered admission to a public institution of higher education.

B. Any person who is a veteran of any war, as defined by 38 C.F.R. § 3.1, and has been living in the Commonwealth for at least three years immediately prior to applying for the benefits conferred by this subsection, shall be entitled to free undergraduate tuition and required fees at any public institution of higher education in Virginia under the following conditions:

1. The Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs provides verification of the person's service and discharge or release under conditions other than dishonorable;

2. The person has exhausted any federal benefits available for such tuition; and

3. The person has been offered admission as a full-time student in a public institution of higher education.

Any child or spouse person who believes he is eligible for the free tuition and required fees provided by this section shall apply for eligibility to the public institution of higher education to which he has been admitted. The institution shall determine the eligibility of the applicant for these benefits and shall also ascertain that the recipients are in attendance and are making satisfactory progress. The amounts payable for tuition and required fees for the applicants shall be waived by the institution accepting the students.

C. For the purposes of this section, user fees, such as room and board charges, shall not be included in this authorization to waive tuition and fees. However, all required fees, educational and auxiliary, shall be waived along with tuition.

INTRODUCED

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