

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

SENATE BILL NO. 2079  
(Education Committee)  
(At the request of the State Board of Higher Education)

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 15-10-18.3 and 15-10-18.5 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to free higher education tuition and fees for dependents of veterans and survivors of firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, and peace officers.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-18.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15-10-18.3. Free tuition in North Dakota institutions of higher education.** Any dependent, as defined in section 15-10-18.2 upon being duly accepted for enrollment into any undergraduate degree or certificate program of a North Dakota state-supported state institution of higher education ~~or state-supported career and technical education school~~, must be allowed to obtain a bachelor's degree or certificate of completion, for so long as the dependent is eligible, free of any tuition and fee charges, ~~except those charged to retire outstanding bonds~~; provided, however, that the bachelor's degree or certificate of completion is earned within a ~~thirty-six-month~~ forty-five-month or ~~eight-semester~~ ten-semester period or its equivalent; and further provided that tuition and fee charges shall not include costs for aviation flight charges or expenses. Once a person qualifies as a dependent under sections 15-10-18.2 and 15-10-18.3, ~~there shall be no removal~~ the dependent may not be disqualified from the benefits of this section due to such an occurrence as the return of the prisoner of war or person missing in action.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-18.5 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15-10-18.5. Free tuition in North Dakota institutions of higher education for survivor of firefighter, emergency medical services personnel, or peace officer.** ~~Should~~ If a firefighter, an emergency medical services personnel as defined under section 23-27-04.3, or a peace officer ~~die~~ dies as a direct result of injuries received while engaged in the performance of official duties under circumstances dangerous to human life, the survivor, upon being duly accepted for enrollment into any undergraduate degree or certificate program of a North Dakota state-supported state institution of higher education ~~or state-supported career and technical education school~~, must be allowed to obtain a bachelor's degree or certificate of completion, for so long as the dependent is eligible, free of any tuition and fee charges, ~~except those charged to retire outstanding bonds~~; provided, however, that the bachelor's degree or certificate of completion is earned within a ~~thirty-six-month~~ forty-five-month or ~~eight-semester~~ ten-semester period or its equivalent; and further provided that tuition and fee charges may not include costs for aviation flight charges or expenses.

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President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2079.

Senate Vote:    Yeas    44        Nays    0        Absent    3

House Vote:    Yeas    92        Nays    0        Absent    2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005,  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State