

SENATE, No. 2104

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Requires public institutions of higher education to grant at least six academic credits to certain veterans.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning veterans at public institutions of higher
2 education, supplementing chapter 3B of Title 18A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes, and repealing P.L.2019, c.327.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. a. As used in this section, “veteran” means an individual
9 who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States,
10 a Reserve component thereof, or the National Guard, and who was
11 honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances
12 from active service.

13 b. A public institution of higher education shall adopt a policy
14 to award academic credit to veterans. The policy shall grant a
15 veteran who is accepted to pursue a course of study at the institution
16 a minimum of six credits upon the veteran’s enrollment.

17 In the event that an institution determines to grant a veteran
18 academic credits in addition to the six credits required pursuant to
19 this subsection, the institution shall take into account and give due
20 consideration to the credit recommendation of the American
21 Council on Education. The credit recommendation of the council
22 represents college-level equivalencies based on a review of
23 workforce training, military training or occupations, and other
24 sources of learning outside the college classroom.

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26 2. Sections 1 and 2 of P.L.2019, c.327 (C.18A:3B-42a) are
27 repealed.

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29 3. Section 1 of this act shall take effect immediately and shall
30 first apply to the first full academic year following the date of
31 enactment and section 2 of this act shall take effect immediately.

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34 STATEMENT

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36 This bill requires public institutions of higher education to adopt
37 policies to award academic credit to honorably discharged veterans
38 who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States,
39 a Reserve component thereof, or the National Guard. The policy
40 adopted by an institution of higher education must grant a veteran
41 who is accepted to pursue a course of study at the institution a
42 minimum of six credits upon the veteran’s enrollment.

43 Under the bill, if an institution determines to grant a veteran
44 academic credits in addition to the required six credits, the
45 institution must take into account and give due consideration to the
46 credit recommendation of the American Council on Education. The
47 credit recommendation of the council represents college-level
48 equivalencies based on a review of workforce training, military

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1 training or occupations, and other sources of learning outside the
2 college classroom.

3 The bill repeals P.L.2019, c.327 which requires each public and
4 independent institution of higher education to accept and apply
5 appropriate credit for a student's military experience, following a
6 determination by the institution that the credits are in alignment
7 with appropriate courses and correspond to the degree being
8 pursued at the institution. The provisions of this bill ensure that a
9 veteran receives a minimum of six credits upon enrollment in a
10 public institution of higher education.