



2020 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1069

Introduced by: **Representative Wiese**

1 **An Act to authorize certain veterans to attend courses offered at postsecondary**
 2 **technical institutes without payment of tuition.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1.** That § 13-55-2 be AMENDED:

5 **13-55-2. Veterans entitled to free tuition at state institutions--Period of**
 6 **entitlement.**

7 Any person residing in this state who is a veteran as defined by §§ 33A-2-1 and
 8 33A-2-2 or who performed active war service, such as nursing or assisting in the care of
 9 soldiers and sailors in any government hospital, field, or camp, as a member of the Red
 10 Cross or any other similar organization engaged in war relief work which has been
 11 recognized and approved by the government of the United States, during any of the
 12 periods or combat operations specified in § 33A-2-2, upon compliance with all the
 13 requirements for admission and after qualifying for resident tuition, may attend and
 14 pursue any undergraduate course in any state educational institution under the control
 15 and management of the Board of Regents or any course at a postsecondary technical
 16 institute as defined in § 13-39A-1 without the payment of charges for tuition for each
 17 month of qualified service or major fraction thereof a month in academic time. However,
 18 no eligible veteran is entitled to less than one nor more than four academic years of free
 19 tuition pursuant to this section. Residence at the time of entry into military service or
 20 active war service does not affect eligibility for the entitlement created in this section. Any
 21 person who qualifies under § 33A-2-2 as a veteran based solely on a service-connected
 22 disability may receive free tuition under this section only if the veterans administration
 23 disability rating is ten percent or greater.

24 No tuition benefit may be provided by the state under this section until the
 25 applicant has applied all federal tuition benefits. Before receiving funds from the state for
 26 the tuition of any eligible applicant under this section, the Board of Regents or

- 1 postsecondary technical institute shall verify that all federal tuition benefits have been
2 exhausted.