

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 143(RLS)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 4/9/97**

**Referred: Calendar**

**Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

**1 "An Act relating to education benefits for members of the Alaska National Guard,  
2 Alaska Naval Militia, or Alaska Territorial Guard."**

**3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**4 \* Section 1.** AS 26.05.295(a) is amended to read:

**5 (a)** Each active enlisted member of the Alaska National Guard or the Alaska  
**6** Naval Militia who has completed the initial voluntary enlistment period of service that  
**7** fulfills the mandatory requirement for military service under 50 U.S.C. App. 451 - 456,  
**8** 458 - 471 (Military Selective Service Act of 1967) is [AND A PERSON WHO  
**9** SERVED IN THE ALASKA TERRITORIAL GUARD FOR 90 DAYS OR MORE OR  
**10** WHOSE SERVICE WAS FOR LESS THAN 90 DAYS BECAUSE OF INJURY OR  
**11** DISABILITY INCURRED IN THE LINE OF DUTY ARE] eligible for educational  
**12** assistance benefits in Alaska educational facilities. [NOTWITHSTANDING THE  
**13** REFERENCE TO MANDATORY MILITARY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS, EACH  
**14** ACTIVE ENLISTED FEMALE MEMBER IS FULLY ELIGIBLE FOR

1 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS UNDER THIS SECTION AFTER  
2 COMPLETING SIX YEARS OF ENLISTED SERVICE.]

3 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 26.05.295(b) is amended to read:

4 (b) **Except as provided in this subsection, educational** [EDUCATIONAL]  
5 programs and monetary benefits available to persons under (a) of this section are based  
6 on and equivalent to those of the federal Veterans Administration education program.  
7 **Educational assistance may only be provided for a program or class in which the**  
8 **person is a student in good standing.**

9 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 26.05.296(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) To the extent funds are available, the adjutant general **may** [SHALL]  
11 authorize the payment of **up to 100** [NOT MORE THAN 50] percent of the cost of  
12 tuition and required fees for each active [OR RETIRED] member of the Alaska  
13 National Guard or the Alaska Naval Militia [AND EACH PERSON WHO SERVED  
14 IN THE ALASKA TERRITORIAL GUARD FOR 90 DAYS OR MORE OR WHOSE  
15 ALASKA TERRITORIAL GUARD SERVICE WAS FOR LESS THAN 90 DAYS  
16 BECAUSE OF INJURY OR DISABILITY INCURRED IN THE LINE OF DUTY,]  
17 if the member [OR PERSON] attends an educational, vocational, or technical training  
18 school in this state. **The adjutant general may prioritize categories of education**  
19 **benefits to encourage recruitment and retention of Alaska National Guard**  
20 **members.** Payments authorized under this section for active [OR RETIRED] members  
21 of the Alaska National Guard or the Alaska Naval Militia continue so long as the  
22 active member **is a student in good standing in the educational program or class**  
23 **and** participates satisfactorily in unit training activities [OR A RETIRED MEMBER  
24 IS ON THE RETIRED LIST AND PURSUES THE COURSE OF STUDY IN A  
25 MANNER ACCEPTABLE TO THE SCHOOL. PAYMENTS AUTHORIZED  
26 UNDER THIS SECTION FOR PERSONS WHO SERVED IN THE ALASKA  
27 TERRITORIAL GUARD CONTINUE AS LONG AS THE PERSON PURSUES THE  
28 COURSE OF STUDY IN A MANNER ACCEPTABLE TO THE SCHOOL].

29 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 26.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

30 **Sec. 26.05.298. Definition for AS 26.05.295 and 26.05.296.** In AS 26.05.295  
31 and 26.05.296, "good standing" means the student is enrolled, attending, and meeting

- 1 the minimum requirements for successful completion of the program or class.
- 2 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 26.05.295(c), 26.05.295(d), and 26.05.296(b) are repealed.