

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003

S

2

SENATE BILL 424  
Judiciary II Committee Substitute Adopted 4/16/03

Short Title: Tuition Waiver Technical Correction.

(Public)

---

Sponsors:

---

Referred to:

---

March 17, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN A 1997 LAW CONCERNING  
TUITION WAIVERS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GENERAL STATUTES  
COMMISSION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** It is the intent of this act to codify the provisions of Section 6  
of S.L. 1997-505, which stated that the law became effective October 1, 1997, and  
applies to deaths or disabilities occurring on or after that date.

**SECTION 2.** G.S. 115B-2 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115B-2. Tuition waiver authorized.

State-supported institutions of higher education, community colleges, industrial  
education centers and technical institutes, shall permit the following persons to attend  
classes for credit or noncredit purposes without the required payment of tuition;  
provided, however, that such persons meet admission and other standards deemed  
appropriate by the educational institution, and provided further that such persons shall  
be accepted by the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina only on a  
spaces-available basis:

- (1) Legal residents of North Carolina who have attained the age of 65.
- (2) Any person who is the survivor of a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker killed on or after October 1, 1997, as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty.
- (3) The spouse of a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker who ~~is~~ becomes permanently and totally disabled on or after October 1, 1997, as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty.
- (4) Any child, if the child is at least 17 years old but not yet 23 years old, whose parent is a law enforcement officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker who ~~is~~ becomes permanently and

1 totally disabled on or after October 1, 1997, as a direct result of a  
2 traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty. However, a child's  
3 eligibility for a waiver of tuition under this Chapter shall not exceed:  
4 (i) 48 months, if the child is seeking a baccalaureate degree, or (ii) if  
5 the child is not seeking a baccalaureate degree, the number of months  
6 required to complete the educational program to which the child is  
7 applying."

8 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 115B-5(b) reads as rewritten:

9 "(b) The officials of the institutions charged with administration of this Chapter  
10 shall require the following proof to insure that a person applying to the institution and  
11 who requests a tuition waiver under G.S. 115B-2(2), (3), or (4) is eligible for the  
12 benefits provided by this Chapter.

- 13 (1) The parent-child relationship shall be verified by a birth certificate,  
14 legal adoption papers, or other documentary evidence deemed  
15 appropriate by the institution.
- 16 (2) The marital relationship shall be verified by a marriage certificate or  
17 other documentary evidence deemed appropriate by the institution.
- 18 (3) The cause and date of death of the law enforcement officer, firefighter,  
19 volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker shall be verified by  
20 certification from the records of the Department of State Treasurer, the  
21 appropriate city or county law enforcement agency that employed the  
22 deceased, the administrative agency for the fire department or fire  
23 protection district recognized for funding under the Department of  
24 State Auditor, or the administrative agency having jurisdiction over  
25 any paid firefighters of all counties and cities.
- 26 (4) The permanent and total disability and the date the disability occurred  
27 shall be verified by documentation deemed necessary by the institution  
28 from the North Carolina Industrial Commission."

29 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.