

By Commissioner Keiser

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1 A proposal to create
2 a new section in Article X of the State Constitution
3 to establish the right to a tuition and fee waiver for
4 the survivors of specified military members.

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6 Be It Proposed by the Constitution Revision Commission of
7 Florida:

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9 A new section is added to Article X of the State
10 Constitution to read:

11 ARTICLE X

12 MISCELLANEOUS

13 Tuition and fee waivers for survivors of military members.-

14 (a) A tuition and fee waiver shall be provided for by funds
15 from general revenue when an active duty member of the United
16 States Armed Forces or Florida National Guard, while engaged in
17 the performance of his or her official duties, is:

18 (1) Accidentally killed or receives accidental bodily
19 injury which results in the loss of the individual's life,
20 provided that such killing is not the result of suicide and that
21 such bodily injury is not intentionally self-inflicted; or

22 (2) Unlawfully and intentionally killed or dies as a result
23 of such unlawful and intentional act.

24 (b) An eligible military member must have been a Florida
25 resident or whose duty post was within the State of Florida at
26 the time of death.

27 (c) If an active duty member of the United States Armed
28 Forces or the Florida National Guard is accidentally killed as
29 specified in paragraph (a) (1), or unlawfully and intentionally
30 killed as specified in paragraph (a) (2), the state shall waive
31 certain tuition and fee expenses that the child or spouse of the
32 deceased military member incurs while obtaining a career

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33 certificate, an undergraduate education, or a postgraduate
34 education. The amount waived by the state shall be an amount
35 equal to the cost of tuition and matriculation and registration
36 fees for a total of 120 credit hours. The child or spouse may
37 attend a state career center, a Florida College System
38 institution, or a state university. The child or spouse may
39 attend any or all of the institutions specified in this
40 subsection, on either a full-time or part-time basis. The
41 benefits provided to a child under this subsection continue
42 until the child's 25th birthday. The benefits provided to a
43 spouse under this subsection must commence within 5 years after
44 the death occurs, and entitlement thereto shall continue until
45 the tenth anniversary of that death.

46 (d) This section does not limit the legislature from
47 enacting laws consistent with this section.

48 (e) This amendment becomes effective upon approval by the
49 electors.