

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Monday, March 2, 2009

House Bill No. 1301

HOUSE BILL NO. 1301 - By: JORDAN, CANNADAY, SHUMATE, LUTTRELL,  
HICKMAN AND MARTIN (SCOTT) of the House and NEWBERRY of the Senate.

An Act relating to higher education; providing for refund of tuition and fees for certain students; stating eligibility requirements; providing for refund of tuition and fees for students that meet certain criteria; providing notice requirements; providing for grade of incomplete on coursework; providing for academic status upon return; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

- 1           SECTION 1.   NEW LAW    A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma  
2 Statutes as Section 2283 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering,  
3 reads as follows:
- 4           A. A student shall be eligible for a one-hundred-percent refund of tuition and fees,  
5 provided:
- 6           1. The student is:
- 7               a.     a member of the Oklahoma Army National Guard,  
8               b.     a member of the Oklahoma Air National Guard,  
9               c.     a member of the reserve element of one of the five branches of the  
10               Armed Forces of the United States of America, or  
11               d.     an active-duty service member stationed in Oklahoma; and

1           2. The student is required to leave school as a result of involuntary orders for  
2 deployment or mobilization in the United States Armed Forces.

3           B. A student meeting any of the requirements set forth in subsection A of this  
4 section shall be awarded a full refund of tuition and fees associated with attending an  
5 institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, provided the  
6 student notifies the institution in writing of the deployment with a copy of the  
7 deployment orders no less than one (1) week prior to deployment.

8           C. Upon receiving a copy of the deployment orders, the institution shall allow the  
9 student to receive a grade of incomplete. The institution shall refund one hundred  
10 percent (100%) of the tuition and fees associated with the coursework and any unearned  
11 credit for the semester or quarter in which the student is activated for duty.

12           D. Upon return from duty, the institution shall allow the student to reenter the  
13 institution with the identical educational and academic status held by the student prior  
14 to deployment.

15           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

16           SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public  
17 peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof  
18 this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

19           COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET,  
20 dated 02-26-09 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.