

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1st Session of the 54<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 486</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>CS</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>7670</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sen. Simpson et al./Rep. Ownbey</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>4/22/2013</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>Avg. cost of \$140,000-10% attend</b> <b>Avg. cost of \$690,000-50% attend</b>

**Research Analysis**

The committee substitute allows any 100 percent disabled veteran, and his or her spouse and children to attend any state-supported technology center school or any institution in the State System of Higher Education without paying tuition or fees. The injury must have occurred after September 11, 2001. To be eligible, the veteran must show proof of disability status from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and provide proof that Oklahoma was the home of record for the military member at the time the disability occurred and children must enroll prior to turning 21. The provisions also will apply to spouses and children of military members killed in action or in the line of duty. The death must have occurred after September 11, 2001. A student will be eligible for in-state status regardless of residency if the student is eligible for benefits through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Post 9/11 G.I. Bill and was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable from the military while at a military installation in Oklahoma.

Prepared By: Dawn Marks

**Fiscal Analysis**

Com. Sub. for ESB Bill 486 creates the Oklahoma 9/11 G.I. Bill. The measure entitles certain persons to attend any state-supported technology center school or any institution in the State System of Higher Education without payment of tuition or fees. State higher education personnel provide that approximately 124 Oklahomans have been casualties while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Oklahoma National Guard personnel estimate that there are sixty-six 100% disabled veterans, and the Federal Office of Veterans Affairs estimate that concerning the number of casualties and 100% disabled veterans, approximately 40% were single with no surviving spouse or children.

The amount of undergraduate resident tuition, mandatory fees and academic fees range annually from \$2,740 to \$8,398. The average costs for all institutions is \$4,541 per 30 credit hours. The estimated annual range of costs for tuition and fees at technology centers is \$1,050 to \$2,888 with an average of annual costs at \$2,100. Estimations include approximately 124 killed in action since 9/11/01 and 66 100% disabled veterans.

It is unknown exactly how many qualified persons will attend career technology centers and/or higher education institutions. However, if 10% of those qualified attend a combination of technology centers or higher education institutions the annual average cost could be approximately \$140,000. If 50% attend a combination of centers and higher education institutions, an average annual cost would be approximately \$690,000.

Prepared By: Andrea Kearney

**Other Considerations**

None at this time.

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