**South Carolina General Assembly**

120th Session, 2013-2014

**A151, R160, H3784**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. J.E. Smith, Pitts, Vick and Harrell

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Introduced in the House on March 7, 2013

Introduced in the Senate on April 25, 2013

Passed by the General Assembly on March 19, 2014

Governor's Action: April 7, 2014, Signed

Summary: National Guard College Assistance Program

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 3/7/2013 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///H%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C03-07-13.docx))

 3/7/2013 House Referred to Committee on **Ways and Means** ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///H%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C03-07-13.docx))

 4/18/2013 House Committee report: Favorable **Ways and Means** ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///H%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C04-18-13.docx))

 4/24/2013 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Pitts, Vick, Harrell

 4/24/2013 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 95](file:///H%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C04-24-13.docx))

 4/24/2013 House Roll call Yeas‑103 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 96](file:///H%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C04-24-13.docx))

 4/25/2013 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 31](file:///H%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C04-25-13.docx))

 4/25/2013 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 10](file:///H%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C04-25-13.docx))

 4/25/2013 Senate Referred to Committee on **Education** ([Senate Journal‑page 10](file:///H%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2013%5C04-25-13.docx))

 3/13/2014 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Education** ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///H%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2014%5C03-13-14.docx))

 3/18/2014 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///H%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2014%5C03-18-14.docx))

 3/18/2014 Senate Roll call Ayes‑33 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///H%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2014%5C03-18-14.docx))

 3/19/2014 Senate Read third time and enrolled ([Senate Journal‑page 20](file:///H%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2014%5C03-19-14.docx))

 4/3/2014 Ratified R 160

 4/7/2014 Signed By Governor

 4/9/2014 Effective date 04/07/14

 4/14/2014 Act No. 151

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[3/7/2013](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2013-14%5C3784_20130307.docx)

[4/18/2013](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2013-14%5C3784_20130418.docx)

[3/13/2014](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2013-14%5C3784_20140313.docx)

(A151, R160, H3784)

**AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 59‑114‑30, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, SO AS TO CLARIFY THAT EACH ACADEMIC YEAR’S ANNUAL MAXIMUM GRANT MUST BE BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF AVAILABLE PROGRAM FUNDS; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑114‑40, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANTS UPON COMPLETION OF BASIC TRAINING AND ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL TRAINING; AND TO AMEND SECTION 59‑114‑65, RELATING TO GRANT AVAILABILITY, SO AS TO ALLOW APPROPRIATIONS TO THE NATIONAL GUARD COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO BE CARRIED FORWARD TO A SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEAR AND EXPENDED FOR THE SAME PURPOSE, AND TO EXEMPT APPROPRIATIONS TO THE NATIONAL GUARD COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FROM MIDYEAR BUDGET REDUCTIONS.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Determination of maximum grant**

SECTION 1. Section 59‑114‑30 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 40 of 2007, is further amended to read:

 “Section 59‑114‑30. Qualifying members of the National Guard may receive college assistance program grants up to an amount equal to one hundred percent of college tuition and fees, provided, however, the total of all grants received may not exceed eighteen thousand dollars. A member may not qualify for college assistance program grants for more than one hundred thirty semester hours or related quarter hours. Grants are not to be awarded for graduate degree courses. A new application must be submitted for each separate academic year prior to the beginning of the academic year. The annual maximum grant must be determined for each academic year based on the amount of available program funds.”

**Determination of eligibility**

SECTION 2. Section 59‑114‑40(B) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 40 of 2007, is further amended to read:

 “(B) Individuals joining the National Guard become eligible for college assistance program grants upon completion of basic training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT). Enlisted personnel shall continue their service in the National Guard during the term of the courses covered by the grant received. Officers shall continue their service with the National Guard for at least four years after completion of the most recent grant awarded or degree completion.”

**Appropriations carry forward and exemption**

SECTION 3. Section 59‑114‑65 of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 40 of 2007, is amended to read:

 “Section 59‑114‑65. Grants provided pursuant to this chapter are subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the General Assembly. Funds appropriated for the college assistance program may be carried forward and expended for the same purpose. If a midyear budget reduction is imposed by the General Assembly or the State Budget and Control Board, the appropriations for the college assistance program are exempt. Up to five percent of the amount appropriated to the college assistance program may be used to defray administrative costs incurred by the commission associated with the implementation of this chapter.”

**Time effective**

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 3rd day of April, 2014.

Approved the 7th day of April, 2014.

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