

1 SENATE BILL 658

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Michael S. Sanchez

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; ENACTING THE MILITARY COMBAT
12 VETERAN SCHOLARSHIP ACT; PROVIDING FOR A GRATIS SCHOLARSHIP FOR
13 THE TUITION AND FEES OF MILITARY COMBAT VETERANS ATTENDING A
14 PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

17 SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is
18 enacted to read:

19 "[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may cited as the
20 "Military Combat Veteran Scholarship Act"."

21 SECTION 2. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is
22 enacted to read:

23 "[NEW MATERIAL] GRATIS SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE TUITION AND
24 FEES OF MILITARY COMBAT VETERANS.--

25 A. The boards of regents of the university of New

.200504.1

underscored material = new
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underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 Mexico, New Mexico state university, New Mexico highlands
2 university, western New Mexico university, eastern New Mexico
3 university, New Mexico military institute and New Mexico
4 institute of mining and technology and the governing body of
5 any established branch community college established pursuant
6 to Chapter 21, Article 14 NMSA 1978 and any community college
7 established pursuant to Chapter 21, Article 13 or 16 NMSA 1978
8 shall establish and grant, in addition to those scholarships
9 provided for in Section 21-1-2 NMSA 1978, gratis scholarships
10 for the tuition and fees of qualified military combat veterans.
11 A military combat veteran scholarship shall be granted in an
12 amount necessary to meet but not exceed the matriculation fee
13 or tuition and fees owed after exhausting all other sources of
14 free financial aid, including private scholarships and grants
15 and public scholarships and grants listed on the web site of
16 the United States department of veterans affairs and in Chapter
17 21 NMSA 1978. The higher education department shall
18 collaborate with the United States department of veterans
19 affairs and the student to ensure that all other available
20 sources of free financial aid are exhausted before determining
21 the availability and calculating the amount of the military
22 combat veteran scholarship.

23 B. To be deemed a qualified military combat veteran
24 for the purposes of this section, a student shall:

25 (1) maintain residency in the state;

.200504.1

