

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO.

Senate Bill 825

PRINTER'S NO.

1625

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

May 1, 2009

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Stack

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
May 1, 2009

Reported as committed, June 23, 2009

First consideration, June 2,3 2009

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, July 9, 2009

Re-reported as amended, Jan. 26, 2010

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 825 amends §7313 of Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes by requiring institutions of higher education (Institution) to allow members of the Pennsylvania National Guard or reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces to pursue a degree under requirements in place prior to the members' military leave of absence.

If the degree requirements change while a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard or a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces is on military leave of absence and on active duty, the member shall be entitled to continue their pursuit under the degree requirements in place prior to their call or order to active duty. Further, the Institution must inform the Member, in writing or email, of the entitlement upon their return from active duty.

This act would take effect in 60 days.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

This legislation would protect members of the Pennsylvania National Guard and reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces from being educationally penalized for taking a military leave of absence for active duty and would not have any effect on the General Fund or any educational assistance programs in place. Therefore, the enactment of this legislation would have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.