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IEMORANDUM

Date:

January 18, 2011

To:

All Members of the House of Representatives

From:

Representative Kenyatta Johnson

Subject:

Co-sponsorship: Extending Tuition Benefits for Active Duty Military Personnel

and Dependents

In the near future, I plan to re-introduce legislation that would extend certain college tuition benefits for families and military personnel who, by the nature of their military service, are called to serve in an active duty capacity outside the Commonwealth. Act 287 of 1982 currently provides for residency for active duty military and civilian Department of Defense personnel who are stationed or transferred to serve in Pennsylvania. This allows these individuals and their families to receive the resident tuition rates at community colleges, state-owned institutions, and state-related institutions of higher education.

My legislation would allow any member of the military or their dependants, who are called to serve active duty outside the Commonwealth, to continue to be eligible for resident tuition rates until they complete their degree, regardless of a change of major. This would allow a resident military serviceman or woman to essentially pause their studies until they return from their active duty and resume studying immediately upon their return to the Commonwealth. In addition, it gives these brave men and women an opportunity to study whatever they choose.

I invite your co-sponsorship of this legislation and your show of support for the men and women who defend our country. If you are interested in co-sponsoring this important legislation, please contact Deborah R. Brady via e-mail at drbrady@pahouse.net.