

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 8, 2007

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 2, 2007

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 272**

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**Introduced by Senator Runner**

February 15, 2007

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An act to add Section 66025.8 to the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 272, as amended, Runner. Public postsecondary education: Armed Forces service.

(1) Existing law requires each segment of public higher education to establish, and update as necessary, a written policy concerning students who are called to active military service, as specified. Existing law grants to qualifying members of the National Guard, the State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia an entitlement to academic leave when active duty, as defined, interrupts college attendance for the purpose of pursuing an undergraduate degree.

This bill would require *the California State University and each community college district, and request the University of California, with respect to each campus in their respective jurisdictions that administers a priority enrollment system, to grant priority for the enrollment in classes to any member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States to be given priority in the enrollment of classes at the California State University and the California Community Colleges those institutions for the first semester academic term* attended at one of these institutions after leaving active duty, if the student enrolls and begins attending classes within 2 years of leaving active duty. The bill would also require *that priority for enrollment be granted to any*

~~student of the California State University or the California Community Colleges those institutions who is called to active military duty compelling the student to take an academic leave of absence to be given priority in the enrollment of classes for the first semester the student resumes studies at the same postsecondary educational institution.~~

Insofar as the bill would impose costs on the California Community Colleges in evaluating an individual’s eligibility for priority in enrollment, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

~~(2) This bill would request the Regents of the University of California to establish the same rules for students enrolled at the University of California as those established by this bill.~~

~~(3)~~

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 66025.8 is added to the Education Code,  
2     to read:  
3     66025.8. The California State University and each community  
4     college district shall, and the University of California is requested  
5     to, with respect to each campus in their respective jurisdictions  
6     that administers a priority enrollment system, grant priority in  
7     that system for enrollment in classes to any member or former  
8     member of the Armed Forces of the United States for the first  
9     academic term attended at one of these institutions after that  
10    student has left active duty, if the student enrolls and begins  
11    attending classes within two years of leaving active duty. As used  
12    in this section, “member or former member of the Armed Forces  
13    of the United States” includes, but is not necessarily limited to,  
14    any student who is called to active military duty compelling that  
15    student to take an academic leave of absence.

1 SECTION 1. ~~Section 66025.8 is added to the Education Code,~~  
2 ~~to read:~~

3 ~~66025.8. (a) Any member or former member of the Armed~~  
4 ~~Forces of the United States shall be given priority in the enrollment~~  
5 ~~of classes at the California State University and the California~~  
6 ~~Community Colleges for the first semester attended at one of these~~  
7 ~~institutions after leaving active duty, if the student enrolls and~~  
8 ~~begins attending classes within two years of leaving active duty.~~

9 ~~(b) Any student of the California State University or the~~  
10 ~~California Community Colleges who is called to active military~~  
11 ~~duty compelling the student to take an academic leave of absence~~  
12 ~~shall be given priority in the enrollment of classes for the first~~  
13 ~~semester the student resumes studies at the same postsecondary~~  
14 ~~educational institution.~~

15 ~~SEC. 2. The Legislature hereby requests the Regents of the~~  
16 ~~University of California to establish the same rules for students~~  
17 ~~enrolled at the University of California as those enacted by Section~~  
18 ~~1 of this act.~~

19 ~~SEC. 3.~~

20 ~~SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that~~  
21 ~~this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to~~  
22 ~~local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made~~  
23 ~~pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division~~  
24 ~~4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~