

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1433 - HB 1372

February 1, 2014

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) to designate campuses as Veterans Education Transition Support Campuses or VETS campuses. Authorizes veterans, meeting certain requirements, to enroll in any public institution of higher education without paying out-of-state tuition or fees. Authorizes veterans to receive in-state tuition and fees if the veteran maintains continuous enrollment; registers to vote in Tennessee; or demonstrates evidence that they will become a resident by obtaining two of the following: a Tennessee driver's license, vehicle registration, or other document as determined by THEC. Requires campuses applying to be VETS campuses to submit a written request to THEC. Requires the college or university, for the purpose of becoming a VETS campus, to meet certain requirements to better serve veterans who are students. Requires a list of VETS campuses to be posted on THEC's website with information about each campus. Requires VETS campuses to submit annual data to THEC on the number of veterans enrolled, their programs of study, and their completion of degrees or other credentials. Implementation of in-state tuition fees for out-of-state veterans shall commence in the fall of the 2014-2015 academic year.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Based on information received from THEC, veterans who enroll from out-of-state will not be charged more for tuition and fees than what is paid by the G.I. Bill, which reimburses for in-state tuition only.
- In their initial year of enrollment, new enrollees will be counted as in-state students for the purposes of tuition.
- The University of Tennessee and Tennessee Board of Regents will be reimbursed in-state tuition for any new enrollees by the federal government through the G.I. Bill. No increase in state expenditures for new military veteran enrollees as a result of this bill.

SB 1433 - HB 1372

- Any increase in state expenditures to establish VETS campuses and to prepare annual reports is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/msg