# First Regular Session Seventy-second General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

# REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction SENATE BILL 19-174

LLS NO. 19-0872.01 Conrad Imel x2313

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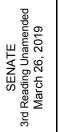
# A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING TUITION ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY FOR DEPENDENT
102	CHILDREN OF CERTAIN PERSONS, AND, IN CONNECTION
103	THEREWITH, DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR DEPENDENTS OF
104	PRISONERS OF WAR, MILITARY PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION,
105	NATIONAL GUARDSMEN, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, AND
106	FIREFIGHTERS.

#### **Bill Summary**

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <u>http://leg.colorado.gov</u>.)

Under existing law, state tuition assistance is available for a





dependent of a prisoner of war or military personnel missing in action, a dependent of a person who died or was permanently disabled while on duty as a Colorado National Guardsman, and a dependent of any person who has been permanently disabled or killed while acting as a police officer, sheriff, or other law enforcement officer or firefighter (dependents) who are not eligible for federal educational benefits.

The bill clarifies that a dependent who is eligible for state tuition assistance and federal educational benefits pursuant to the federal "Public Safety Officers' Benefits Act" may receive the state tuition assistance prior to receiving the federal benefit. The state tuition assistance available to a dependent is reduced by the amount of any federal educational benefit provided to the dependent.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.3-204, repeal 3 and reenact, with amendments, (4) as follows: 4 23-3.3-204. Dependents of prisoners of war and military 5 personnel missing in action. (4) (a) A QUALIFIED DEPENDENT MAY 6 RECEIVE BENEFITS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION PRIOR TO RECEIVING 7 FEDERAL EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO DEPENDENTS PURSUANT 8 TO THE FEDERAL "PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS ACT", 34 U.S.C. 9 SEC. 10281, ET SEQ. 10 (b) THE BENEFIT PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE 11 REDUCED BY AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF ANY FEDERAL 12 EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS PROVIDED TO THE DEPENDENT. 13 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.3-205, repeal 14 and reenact, with amendments, (2) as follows: 15 23-3.3-205. Dependents of deceased or permanently disabled 16 National Guardsman, law enforcement officer, or firefighter. 17 (2) (a) A QUALIFIED DEPENDENT MAY RECEIVE BENEFITS PURSUANT TO 18 THIS SECTION PRIOR TO RECEIVING FEDERAL EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS 19 AVAILABLE TO DEPENDENTS PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL "PUBLIC SAFETY 1 OFFICERS' BENEFITS ACT", 34 U.S.C. SEC. 10281, ET SEQ.

2 (b) THE BENEFIT PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE
3 REDUCED BY AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF ANY FEDERAL
4 EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS PROVIDED TO THE DEPENDENT.

5 SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act 6 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the 7 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a 8 9 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the 10 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act 11 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect 12 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in 13 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the 14 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.