

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5390

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 16, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE**

**District 34 (Essex and Passaic)**

**Senator VIN GOPAL**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Senator STEVEN V. OROHO**

**District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

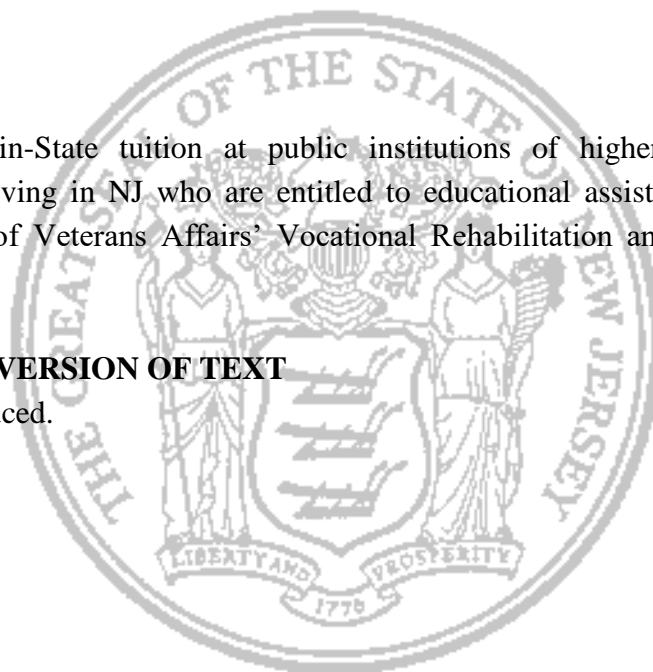
**Assemblyman Caputo, Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Pinkin,  
Assemblyman Karabinchak, Assemblywomen McKnight, Lopez,  
Assemblymen Tully, Space, Wirths, Assemblywomen Lampitt, Swain,  
Downey, Quijano, Senators Greenstein, A.R.Bucco and Brown**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides in-State tuition at public institutions of higher education to individuals living in NJ who are entitled to educational assistance under US Department of Veterans Affairs' Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2019)**

1 AN ACT concerning tuition for certain servicemembers at public  
2 institutions of higher education and amending P.L.2015, c.32.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 2 of P.L.2015, c.32 (C.18A:62-4.1b) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 2. a. A veteran or covered individual who is living in New  
10 Jersey and is attending a public institution of higher education in  
11 New Jersey shall be regarded as a resident of the State for the  
12 purpose of determining tuition, regardless of the veteran or covered  
13 individual's state of residence.

14 b. As used in this section:

15 "Covered individual" means:

16 (1) an individual who is entitled to educational assistance under  
17 provisions of the federal "Post-9/11 Educational Assistance"  
18 program (38 U.S.C. s.3311(b)(9) or 3319) by virtue of such  
19 individual's relationship to a veteran ; and

20 (2) an individual who is entitled to educational assistance under  
21 provisions of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs'  
22 "Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program" (38 U.S.C.  
23 s.3100 et seq.) effective for courses, semesters, or terms that begin  
24 after March 1, 2019.

25 "Veteran" means a person who has served on active duty in the  
26 Uniformed Services of the United States and who was discharged or  
27 released and who qualifies for educational assistance under the  
28 federal "All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program" (38  
29 U.S.C. s.3001 et seq.) or "Post-9/11 Educational Assistance"  
30 program (38 U.S.C. s.3301 et seq.).

31 (cf: P.L.2015, c.32, s.2)

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33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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38 Under the "New Jersey Tuition Equality for America's Military  
39 (NJTEAM) Act," P.L.2015, c.32, certain veterans who live in New  
40 Jersey and attend a public institution of higher education are  
41 eligible for in-State tuition rates regardless of the veteran's state of  
42 residence. The NJTEAM Act also extends in-State tuition eligibility  
43 to certain other "covered individuals" such as the veteran's spouse  
44 or child. This bill expands the definition of a "covered individual"  
45 under the NJTEAM Act to also provide in-State tuition eligibility to

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**A5390 TUCKER, MUKHERJI**

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1 individuals who are entitled to educational assistance under the  
2 United States Department of Veterans Affairs' "Vocational  
3 Rehabilitation and Employment Program" (38 U.S.C. s.3100 et  
4 seq.) effective for courses, semesters, or terms that begin after  
5 March 1, 2019.

6 The provisions of this bill conform with a recent federal law,  
7 section 301 of Public Law No. 115-251, which provides that  
8 individuals using educational assistance under the Department of  
9 Veterans Affairs' "Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment  
10 Program" who live in the state must be charged the in-state tuition  
11 rate at a public institution of higher education.