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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. **3213**

03/19/2014 Authored by Dorholt and Lien

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State Government Finance and Veterans Affairs

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; modifying the cost of attendance calculation for
1.3 purposes of the Minnesota GI bill program; amending Minnesota Statutes 2013
1.4 Supplement, section 197.791, subdivision 5.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2013 Supplement, section 197.791, subdivision 5,
1.7 is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 5. **Benefit amount.** (a) On approval by the commissioner of eligibility for
1.9 the program, the applicant shall be awarded, on a funds-available basis, the educational
1.10 assistance under the program for use at any time according to program rules at any
1.11 eligible institution.

1.12 (b) The amount of educational assistance in any semester or term for an eligible
1.13 person must be determined by subtracting from the eligible person's cost of attendance the
1.14 amount the person received or was eligible to receive in that semester or term from:

1.15 (1) the federal Pell Grant;

1.16 (2) the state grant program under section 136A.121; and

1.17 (3) any federal military or veterans educational benefits ~~including but not limited~~
1.18 ~~to the Montgomery GI Bill, GI Bill Kicker, the federal tuition assistance program,~~
1.19 ~~vocational rehabilitation benefits, and any other federal benefits associated with the~~
1.20 ~~person's status as a veteran, except veterans disability payments from the United States~~
1.21 ~~Veterans Administration and payments made under the Veterans Retraining Assistance~~
1.22 ~~Program (VRAP) paid to the institution.~~

1.23 (c) The amount of educational assistance for any eligible person who is a full-time
1.24 student must not exceed the following:

2.1 (1) \$1,000 per semester or term of enrollment;

2.2 (2) \$3,000 per state fiscal year; and

2.3 (3) \$10,000 in a lifetime.

2.4 For a part-time student, the amount of educational assistance must not exceed
2.5 \$500 per semester or term of enrollment. For the purpose of this paragraph, a part-time
2.6 undergraduate student is a student taking fewer than 12 credits or the equivalent for a
2.7 semester or term of enrollment and a part-time graduate student is a student considered
2.8 part time by the eligible institution the graduate student is attending. The minimum award
2.9 for undergraduate and graduate students is \$50 per term.

2.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section applies to awards issued for the 2014-2015
2.11 academic year and thereafter.