

SENATE FILE NO. SF0121

Peace officers-dependents' tuition.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Barrasso and Representative(s)
Quarberg and Walsh

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to peace officers; providing that
2 dependents of peace officers totally disabled while in the
3 scope of duty shall receive free university or community
4 college tuition and fees as specified; and providing for an
5 effective date.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 7-2-108(a), (b) and (d) is amended to
10 read:

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12 **7-2-108. Free tuition and fees for education of**
13 **survivors of deceased peace officers and dependents of**
14 **totally disabled peace officers.**

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1 (a) The University of Wyoming for up to ten (10)
2 semesters and each community college for up to a total of
3 six (6) semesters of study at the community college level
4 shall provide free tuition and fees for any person who is a
5 surviving dependent of a peace officer who has qualified
6 pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-709 and who died or
7 became totally disabled while acting within the scope of
8 ~~his~~ duties in the service of a law enforcement agency in
9 the state. If the surviving dependent first enrolls in a
10 community college and then transfers to another community
11 college or the University of Wyoming, the free tuition and
12 fees shall continue until the dependent has completed a
13 cumulative total of ten (10) semesters at the community
14 college level and the university, not to exceed six (6)
15 semesters at the community college level.

16
17 (b) In order to qualify for the benefit under this
18 section, a person claiming eligibility for free tuition and
19 fees under this section shall be under twenty-two (22)
20 years of age at the time of the death or total disability
21 of the parent or other person responsible for the support
22 of the applicant. Upon application by a person claiming
23 eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section
24 because of the death or total disability of a parent or

1 legal guardian, the university or community college where
2 the person applied for enrollment shall:

3
4 (i) Determine whether the ~~decedent~~deceased or
5 disabled peace officer was an individual specified in
6 subsection (a) of this section;

7
8 (ii) Determine whether the ~~decedent~~peace
9 officer died or became totally disabled while acting within
10 the scope of his duties; and

11
12 (iii) Certify whether the person claiming
13 eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section is
14 qualified to receive free tuition and fees under this
15 section.

16
17 (d) For purposes of paragraph (b)(ii) of this
18 section, it shall be conclusively presumed that the
19 ~~decedent~~peace officer died or became totally disabled
20 while acting within the scope of duties if death benefits
21 or permanent total disability benefits were paid as a
22 result of the peace officer's death or injury to any person
23 pursuant to the Wyoming Worker's Compensation Act.

24

1 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2007.

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(END)