

House Bill 4792

A bill to amend 1996 PA 195, entitled  
"Police officer's and fire fighter's survivor tuition act,"  
by amending the title and sections 1, 2, and 3 (MCL 390.1241,  
390.1242, and 390.1243).

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1 TITLE

2 An act to provide for a waiver of tuition at state public  
3 institutions of higher education for children and surviving  
4 spouses of Michigan police officers, MOTOR CARRIER OFFICERS, CAP-  
5 ITOL SECURITY OFFICERS, and fire fighters killed in the line of  
6 duty; and to provide for an appropriation.

7 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
8 "police officer's, MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER'S, CAPITOL SECURITY  
9 OFFICER'S, and fire fighter's survivor tuition act".

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Child" means an individual who is a natural or adopted child of a deceased Michigan police officer, DECEASED MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER, DECEASED MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER, or deceased Michigan fire fighter and who was under the age of 21 at the time of the Michigan police officer's, MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER'S, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER'S, or Michigan fire fighter's death.

(b) "Department" means the department of state police.

(c) "Killed" means that the Michigan police officer's, MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER'S, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER'S, or Michigan fire fighter's death is the direct and proximate result of a traumatic injury incurred in the line of duty.

(d) "Line of duty" means an action that a Michigan police officer, MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER, or Michigan fire fighter is obligated or authorized to perform by rule, regulation, condition of employment or service, or law, including, but not limited to, a social, ceremonial, or athletic function that the Michigan police officer, MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER, or Michigan fire fighter is assigned to or compensated for by the public agency he or she serves.

(E) "MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER" MEANS A SECURITY EMPLOYEE EMPLOYED BY THE STATE AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 6C OF 1935 PA 59, MCL 28.6C.

1 (F) "MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER" MEANS AN OFFICER OF THE  
2 MOTOR CARRIER ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE  
3 MICHIGAN STATE POLICE AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 6D OF 1935 PA 59,  
4 MCL 28.6D.

5 (G) ~~-(e)-~~ "Michigan police officer" means a sheriff or  
6 sheriff's deputy of a sheriff's department in this state; village  
7 or township marshal of a village or township in this state; offi-  
8 cer of the police department of any city, village, or township in  
9 this state; officer of the Michigan state police; [CONSERVATION  
OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OR DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY;] or any other  
10 police officer or law enforcement officer trained and certified  
11 pursuant to the ~~Michigan law enforcement officers training coun-~~  
12 ~~cil act of 1965, Act No. 203 of the Public Acts of 1965, being~~  
13 ~~sections 28.601 to 28.616 of the Michigan Compiled Laws~~  
14 COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS ACT, 1965 PA 203, MCL  
15 28.601 TO 28.616.

16 (H) ~~-(f)-~~ "Michigan fire fighter" means a member, including  
17 volunteer members and members paid on call, of a fire department  
18 ~~,~~ or other organization that provides fire suppression and  
19 other fire-related services, of a city, township, village, or  
20 county who is responsible for or is in a capacity that includes  
21 responsibility for the extinguishment of fires. Michigan fire  
22 fighter does not include a person whose job description, duties,  
23 or responsibilities do not include direct involvement in fire  
24 suppression.

25 (I) ~~-(g)-~~ "Occupational disease" means a disease that rou-  
26 tinely constitutes a special hazard in, or is commonly regarded  
27 as concomitant of, the Michigan police officer's, MICHIGAN MOTOR

1 CARRIER OFFICER'S, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER'S, or  
2 Michigan fire fighter's occupation.

3 (J) ~~(h)~~ "State institution of higher education" means a  
4 public community or junior college established under section 7 of  
5 article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 or part 25 of the  
6 revised school code, ~~Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1976,~~  
7 ~~being sections 380.1601 to 380.1607 of the Michigan Compiled~~  
8 ~~Laws~~ 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1601 TO 380.1607, or a state univer-  
9 sity described in section 4, 5, or 6 of article VIII of the state  
10 constitution of 1963.

11 (K) ~~(i)~~ "Traumatic injury" means a wound or the condition  
12 of the body caused by external force, including, but not limited  
13 to, an injury inflicted by bullet, explosive, sharp instrument,  
14 blunt object or other physical blow, fire, smoke, chemical, elec-  
15 tricity, climatic condition, infectious disease, radiation, or  
16 bacteria, but excluding an injury resulting from stress, strain,  
17 or occupational disease.

18 (l) ~~(j)~~ "Tuition" means tuition at the rate charged for  
19 residents of this state.

20 Sec. 3. (1) Beginning in the 1996-1997 academic year, and  
21 subject to the limitations in subsections (2), (3), and (4), a  
22 state institution of higher education shall waive tuition for  
23 each child and surviving spouse of a Michigan police officer,  
24 MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY  
25 OFFICER, or Michigan fire fighter who has been or is killed ~~in~~  
26 ~~the line of duty~~ if the child or surviving spouse meets all of  
27 the following requirements:

1 (a) Applies, qualifies, and is admitted as a full-time,  
2 part-time, or summer school student in a program of study leading  
3 to a degree or certificate.

4 (b) Is a legal resident of ~~the~~ THIS state for at least the  
5 12 consecutive months immediately preceding his or her  
6 application. For an individual who is a dependent of his or her  
7 parent, residency status shall be determined by the parent's  
8 residency. For an individual who is not a dependent, residency  
9 status shall be determined in the same manner as under title IV  
10 of the higher education act of 1965, Public Law 89-329, 79  
11 Stat. 1232.

12 (c) Applies to the department for tuition waiver under this  
13 act and provides evidence satisfactory to the department that he  
14 or she is the child or the surviving spouse of a Michigan police  
15 officer, MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECUR-  
16 ITY OFFICER, or Michigan fire fighter who was killed, ~~in the~~  
17 ~~line of duty,~~ that the course or courses for which he or she is  
18 seeking a tuition waiver meet the requirements of subsection (2),  
19 and that he or she meets the other requirements of this section.

20 (d) For a child of a Michigan police officer, MICHIGAN MOTOR  
21 CARRIER OFFICER, MICHIGAN CAPITOL SECURITY OFFICER, or Michigan  
22 fire fighter who was killed, ~~in the line of duty,~~ applies under  
23 subdivision (c) for the first time before the age of 21.

24 ~~[(e) Is certified by the financial aid officer at the state~~  
25 ~~institution of higher education as needing the tuition waiver in~~  
26 ~~order to meet recognized educational expenses. If the child's or~~  
27 ~~surviving spouse's family income, excluding any income from death~~

1 ~~benefits attributable to the Michigan police officer's,~~  
2 ~~Michigan fire fighter's death, is below 400% of poverty level~~ or  
3 ~~under federal poverty guidelines published by the United States~~  
4 ~~department of health and human services, income from any death~~  
5 ~~benefits accruing to the child or surviving spouse as a result of~~  
6 ~~the Michigan police officer's,~~  
7 ~~or Michigan fire fighter's~~  
8 ~~death shall not be counted as family income in determining finan=~~  
9 ~~cial need under this subdivision.~~

11 [(E)(f)] Maintains satisfactory academic progress, as defined  
12 by  
13 the state institution of higher education, for each term or  
14 semester in which he or she is enrolled. The satisfactory  
15 progress definition used by an institution for federal student  
16 assistance programs under title IV of the higher education act of  
17 1965, PUBLIC LAW 89-329, 79 STAT. 1232, is acceptable for the  
18 purposes of this act.

19 [(F)(g)] Has not achieved a bachelor's degree and has received  
20 tuition reimbursement under this act for less than 124 semester  
21 credits or 180 term credits at an institution of higher  
22 education.

23 (2) A state institution of higher education shall waive  
24 tuition under this act only for courses that are applicable  
25 toward the degree or certificate requirements of the program in  
26 which the child or surviving spouse is enrolled.

27 (3) A child or surviving spouse of a Michigan police  
officer, MICHIGAN MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER, MICHIGAN CAPITOL

1 SECURITY OFFICER, or Michigan fire fighter who was killed in the  
2 line of duty is eligible for tuition waiver under this section  
3 for not more than a total of 9 semesters or the equivalent number  
4 of terms or quarters.

5 (4) ~~Tuition shall be waived~~ A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
6 EDUCATION SHALL WAIVE TUITION UNDER THIS ACT to the extent that  
7 the tuition is not covered or paid by any scholarship, trust  
8 fund, statutory benefit, or any other source of tuition coverage  
9 available to the person eligible for a waiver under this act.