

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3967

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 11, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman BOB ANDRZEJCZAK**  
**District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)**

**Assemblyman JOSEPH A. LAGANA**  
**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO**  
**District 2 (Atlantic)**

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**Assemblywoman DIANNE C. GOVE**  
**District 9 (Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman JAY WEBBER**  
**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Senator DONALD NORCROSS**  
**District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**  
**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblymen Fiocchi, Diegnan, Assemblywoman Lampitt, Assemblymen Rumpf, Singleton, Eustace, Assemblywomen Pinkin, Pintor Marin, Senators Connors, Allen, Van Drew, A.R.Bucco, Whelan and Madden**

**SYNOPSIS**

“New Jersey Tuition Equality for America’s Military (NJTEAM) Act”; provides in-State tuition at New Jersey public institutions of higher education to military veterans and certain family members living in New Jersey.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/6/2015)

1 AN ACT concerning tuition for veterans at public institutions of  
2 higher education and supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A of  
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “New Jersey  
9 Tuition Equality for America’s Military (NJTEAM) Act.”

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

16 b. As used in this section:

17 “Covered individual” means an individual who is entitled to  
18 educational assistance under provisions of the federal “Post-9/11  
19 Educational Assistance” program (38 U.S.C. ss.3311(b)(9) or 3319)  
20 by virtue of such individual’s relationship to a veteran.

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

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28 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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33 This bill, which will be known as the “New Jersey Tuition  
34 Equality for America’s Military (NJTEAM) Act,” provides that a  
35 veteran who is living in New Jersey and attending a public  
36 institution of higher education in New Jersey will be regarded as a  
37 resident of the State for tuition purposes, thereby making the  
38 veteran eligible to pay an in-State tuition rate regardless of the  
39 veteran’s state of residence. A “veteran” for purposes of the bill is  
40 an individual who has served on active duty in the Uniformed  
41 Services of the United States and who was discharged or released  
42 and who qualifies for educational assistance under the federal “All-  
43 Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program” (38 U.S.C.  
44 s.3001 et seq.) or “Post-9/11 Educational Assistance” program (38  
45 U.S.C. s.3301 et seq.).

46 The bill also allows certain other “covered individuals,” such as  
47 a veteran’s spouse or child, who are living in New Jersey to pay in-  
48 State tuition at a public institution of higher education, regardless of

1 their state of residence. A “covered individual” for purposes of the  
2 bill is an individual who is entitled to educational assistance under  
3 provisions of the federal “Post-9/11 Educational Assistance”  
4 program (38 U.S.C. ss.3311(b)(9) or 3319) by virtue of the  
5 individual’s relationship to a veteran.

6 The provisions of this bill conform with section 702 of the  
7 federal “Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014”  
8 (38 U.S.C. s.3679). The federal law directs the Secretary of  
9 Veterans Affairs to disapprove, for purposes of the All-Volunteer  
10 Force and the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance programs, courses  
11 of education provided by a public institution of higher education if  
12 the institution charges veterans and covered individuals living in the  
13 state higher tuition and fees than it charges in-state residents.