

House Bill 3476

Sponsored by Representative COWAN; Representatives BARKER, GARRETT, HICKS, KRIEGER, MATTHEWS, SCHAUFLEER, WAND, Senators DINGFELDER, VERGER

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Expands scholarships for children of public safety officers killed or injured in line of duty to include children of reserve police officers and volunteer firefighters killed or injured in line of duty.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to scholarships for children of individuals killed or injured while providing public safety
3 services; amending ORS 348.270.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 348.270 is amended to read:

6 348.270. (1) In addition to any other scholarships provided by law, the Oregon Student Assist-
7 ance Commission shall award scholarships in any state institution under the State Board of Higher
8 Education, in the Oregon Health and Science University, in any community college operated under
9 ORS chapter 341, or in any Oregon-based regionally accredited independent institution, to any stu-
10 dent applying for enrollment or who is enrolled therein, who is:

11 (a) The natural child, adopted child or stepchild of any public safety officer, **reserve police**
12 **officer or volunteer firefighter** who, in the line of duty, was killed or so disabled, as determined
13 by the Oregon Student Assistance Commission, that:

14 (A) The income of the public safety officer is less than that earned by public safety officers
15 performing duties comparable to those performed at the highest rank or grade attained by the public
16 safety officer; or

17 (B) **The income of the reserve police officer or volunteer firefighter working in their**
18 **primary profession or type of employment is less than that earned by individuals in the same**
19 **profession or type of employment with similar levels of education and experience; or**

20 (b) A former foster child who enrolls in an institution of higher education as an undergraduate
21 student not later than three years from the date the student was removed from the care of the De-
22 partment of Human Services, the date the student graduated from high school or the date the stu-
23 dent received the equivalent of a high school diploma, whichever date is earliest.

24 (2) Scholarships awarded under this section to students who are dependents of public safety of-
25 ficers, **reserve police officers or volunteer firefighters** or who are former foster children shall
26 equal the amount of tuition and all fees levied by the institution against the recipient of the schol-
27 arship. However, scholarships awarded to students who attend independent institutions [*shall*] **may**
28 not exceed the amount of tuition and all fees levied by the University of Oregon.

29 (3) If the student who is the dependent of a deceased public safety officer, **reserve police offi-**
30 **cer or volunteer firefighter** continues to remain enrolled in a state institution of higher education
31 or a community college or an independent institution within the State of Oregon, the student shall

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 be entitled to renewal of the scholarship until the student has received the equivalent of four years
2 of undergraduate education and four years of post-graduate education.

3 (4) If the student who is a former foster child or who is the dependent of a public safety
4 officer, **reserve police officer or volunteer firefighter** with a disability continues to remain en-
5 rolled in a state institution of higher education or a community college or an independent institution
6 within the State of Oregon, the student shall be entitled to renewal of the scholarship until the
7 student has received the equivalent of four years of undergraduate education.

8 (5) The Oregon Student Assistance Commission may require proof of the student's relationship
9 to a public safety officer, **reserve police officer or volunteer firefighter** described in subsection
10 (1) of this section or proof that the student is a former foster child.

11 (6) As used in this section:

12 (a) "Former foster child" means an individual who, for a total of 12 or more months while be-
13 tween the ages of 16 and 21, was a ward of the court pursuant to ORS 419B.100 (1)(b) to (e) and in
14 the legal custody of the Department of Human Services for out-of-home placement.

15 (b) "Public safety officer" means:

16 (A) A firefighter or police officer as those terms are defined in ORS 237.610.

17 (B) A member of the Oregon State Police.

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