

From: Veldran, Katherine
To: Robert A. Murphy <rmurphy@usca.edu>
CC: Mottel, Haley <HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 6/5/2015 2:32:56 PM
Subject: RE: In-state tuition rates for military personnel Bill Signing

Please call 803-767-7583 when youre available to discuss the details below.

**Thank you,
Katherine**

EVENT: In-state Tuition Rates for Military Personnel Bill, S.391 – Ceremonial Bill Signing
**Bill was signed on June 7, 2015*

DATE: Tuesday, June 9, 2015

TIME: 1:30PM

LOCATION: University of South Carolina-Aiken Campus, Gregg-Graniteville Library, 152 Scholar Loop, Aiken, S.C.

The only university in the state to be rated in the top 150 universities in the Nation for being a Best for Vets institution of higher education.

LOCATION CONTACT:

Robert A. Murphy, Director, Veteran and Military Student Success
Office: (803) 641-3582 Cell: (803) 508-1080 rmurphy@usca.edu

PRESS: Yes

PUBLIC: Yes

INVITES:

Aiken Delegation
Aiken Partnership Board (Director Murphy will be sending this list)

INTRODUCED BY:

SUGGESTED SPEAKING ORDER/LINE-BY-LINE: (Director Murphy will email)

SPONSORS:

Senate: (S.391) Young, Massey, Turner, Thurmond, Johnson, McElveen, Shealy, Hembree, Cromer, Setzler, Alexander, Davis, Scott

House: (H.3037) Daning, GM Smith, GR Smith, Cobb-Hunter, MS MCLeod, Felder, Huggins, Pitts, Taylor, Mitchell, Bales, Jefferson, Gambrell

BILL BACKGROUND:

- In 2014, federal legislation entitled the Choice Act expanded the use of certain tuition assistance benefits to military dependents.
- This legislation requires states to allow beneficiaries of veteran-related education benefits to receive in-state tuition rates and allows for penalties on other federal education benefits should states not comply with this provision.
- This bill allows for in-state tuition for military personnel and their dependents while they are

- beneficiaries of military-related education benefits, bringing the state into compliance with federal provisions.
- Universities and colleges indicate this could result in an other funds fiscal impact of \$14.7 million by lowering tuition rates for individuals currently paying out-of-state tuition.
- CHE estimates the fiscal impact of not complying with this provision could result in losses to state colleges and universities upwards of \$50 million.
- The senate budget provides for a \$10 million non-recurring offset for this fiscal impact.
- Passed Senate (44-0), House (98-0).

LOCATION SETUP: (provided by USC Aiken)

Podium
State Seal
Microphone
Signing table
Executive Chair
Flags (4) (US and SC)
Pens (4)

From: Robert A. Murphy [<mailto:rmurphy@usca.edu>]
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Priester, Nicole
Subject: In-state tuition rates for military personnel Bill Signing

Nicole,

I understand that Bill S 0391 and H 3037 which support In-state tuition rates for military personnel, might be on the Governor's desk soon for signing. I would like your assistance or direction as to how USC Aiken can host the signature of this bill.

As the *only* university in the state to be rated in the top 150 universities in the Nation for being a Best for Vets institution of higher education, I think it would be fitting to invite our State Leadership to USC Aiken for noteworthy event like the passage of this bill.

I would love to host a bill signature event at our campus, surrounded by student veterans, demonstrating South Carolina's commitment to our Military Service Members, Veterans, and Higher Education.

How do I go about making this request a formal request, and do you think this is possible?

Any support you might provide is very appreciated.

Thank you Nicole for your support.

Semper Fidelis,
Robert A. Murphy



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*The only SC university to receive all four Veteran/Military Awards in 2015
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