



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Sen. David Pearce and Rep. Scott Largent Join Forces to Pass Military Bill

JEFFERSON CITY—A bill that addresses several issues affecting both active military members and veterans in Missouri was recently signed by the governor. [House Bill 427](#), which was handled in the Senate by Sen. David Pearce (R-Warrensburg) and sponsored in the House by Rep. Scott Largent (R-Clinton), will become law on August 28.

One goal of House Bill 427, which had overwhelming bipartisan support in both legislative chambers, was to make Missouri an even more military-friendly place to live for those stationed here on active duty. An especially significant provision of the bill will allow the dependents of active military members stationed in Missouri to receive in-state tuition at public colleges and universities, regardless if the military member is re-assigned outside the state.

“This bill will help ease the financial burden for military families struggling to save and pay for college by providing them with some stability,” Sen. Pearce said. “Part of military life involves moving around a lot, which can make it difficult to establish residency. This change allows military families to anticipate tuition costs without worrying if reassignment will affect their ability to pay for college.”

Another part of HB 427 adds four lawmakers to the Missouri Veterans Commission—two members from the Senate and two members from the House of Representatives, one each chosen by majority and minority leadership. The bill also establishes an interstate interchange designation program to honor fallen Missouri military heroes; allows certain veterans to park for free in metered parking spaces upon the approval of the local governing entity; and requires all court orders to be temporary regarding child custody or visitation while an individual is in active military service and deployed out-of-state.

“The issues addressed in House Bill 427 are important to our military and veterans,” Sen. Pearce said. “By acknowledging their concerns and making meaningful changes, we are showing one small gesture of appreciation for the sacrifices they have made on behalf of this country.”

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Contact: Matt Michelson
(573) 751-2272