



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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**CREATE VETERANS' DEPENDENTS'
EDUCATION FUND**

House Bill 5640

Sponsor: Rep. Allen Lowe

**Committee: Senior Citizens and Veterans
Affairs**

Complete to 4-18-96

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5640 AS INTRODUCED 2-27-96

Current law provides that certain children of Michigan veterans are not required to pay tuition while they attend one of Michigan's state supported educational or training institutions. In order to be eligible to receive this tuition grant the child must be between 16 and 22 years old, a resident of Michigan for the prior 12 months, and the veteran parent must have died or become 100 percent disabled as the result of service or participation in a military action, or be officially listed as missing in action. The statute also limits the amount of tuition to 36 months worth of education and offers extensions that provide eligibility for people over the age of 22 under certain circumstances. In addition, the statute stipulates that appropriations provided to the educational institutions or state board of education for the tuition for eligible students is to be made to the Michigan Veterans' Trust Fund board of trustees.

House Bill 5640 would require the appropriation to be made instead to the Veterans' Dependents' Education Fund that would be created under the bill within the state treasury. The bill would permit the state treasurer to receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer would direct the investment of the fund and would credit interest and earnings from the fund investments to the fund. Money remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year would remain in the fund and not lapse to the general fund. The Michigan Veterans' Trust Fund board of trustees would, upon appropriation, administer the money in the fund to cover the tuition costs of the eligible students.

MCL 35.112

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