

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 412

An act relating to educational opportunities for dependent children of servicemembers or civilian personnel classified as prisoners of war or missing in action; amending s. 295.015, F.S.; expanding the provision of educational opportunity at state expense for children of servicemembers, or civilian personnel captured while serving with the consent or authorization of the United States Government, who are classified as prisoners of war or missing in action; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 295.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

295.015 Children of prisoners of war and persons missing in action; education.—

(1) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state to provide educational opportunity at state expense for dependent children either of whose parents ~~has been~~ became classified as a ~~prisoner~~ prisoners of war or missing in action ~~in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States during the Korean Conflict or during the Vietnam Era, as defined in s. 1.01(14), or in the capacity of~~ civilian personnel captured while serving with the consent or authorization of the United States Government. Such educational opportunity shall be provided until such time as the parent so classified is returned alive or the parent's remains are recovered; provided that, in order to be eligible, the parents of such children must have been ~~bona fide~~ residents of the state for 1 year ~~5 years next preceding the event that led to the parent's classification as a prisoner of war or missing in action by the United States Government~~ their application for the benefits hereof and must be permanent residents of the state on the effective date of this act.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor June 19, 2007.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 19, 2007.