## **CHAPTER 98-179**

## House Bill No. 3205

An act relating to the National Guard; amending s. 250.10, F.S.; revising language with respect to payments under the educational tuition assistance program administered by the Department of Military Affairs; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (8) of section 250.10, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

250.10 Appointment and duties of the Adjutant General.—

(8) The Department of Military Affairs is authorized to administer an educational tuition assistance program for members of the Florida National Guard who qualify pursuant to subsection (7).

(a) Members of the Florida National Guard as of June 30, 1997, shall be exempt from payment of one-half of tuition and fees subject to the following limitations:

1. Participation in the program shall not exceed a period of 10 years from the date of enrollment in the tuition assistance program, or shall continue until graduation or termination of the full-time or part-time student, whichever occurs earlier.

2. Florida National Guard members shall be admitted on a space-available basis.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) and subject to appropriations, the Department of Military Affairs may pay the full cost of tuition and fees for required courses for members of the Florida National Guard who were members as of June 30, 1997, if a member is unable to obtain admittance on a space-available basis and, at least on one previous occasion, the member was denied admission to the required course.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 22, 1998.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 22, 1998.