
DIGEST

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Henry Burns

HB No. 977

Abstract: Provides for the La. Military Family Assistance Board to determine eligibility for needs-based claims based on certain requirements.

Present law requires the board to meet as necessary to review all claims adjudicated by the third-party administrator and to make the following determinations:

- (1) That all awards are made on behalf of activated military personnel.
- (2) That all awards are made pursuant to a claim by family members of activated military personnel, or by the activated military person himself.
- (3) That all awards are need-based.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that claims may be considered need-based if all of the following apply:

- (1) Funds are requested for necessary expenses incurred, or to be incurred.
- (2) The necessary expenses created, or will create, an undue hardship on the family member.
- (3) The undue hardship can be directly related to the activation of the military person.
- (4) Payment of the claim by the fund does not supplant other available public or private funds.
- (5) The La. Military Family Assistance Fund is in fact the family member's last resort.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the undue hardship can also be indirectly related to the activation of the military person.

Proposed law requires the applicant or the family member to make reasonable attempts to secure alternative funding through another program.

(Amends R.S. 46:123(D)(1)(c)(iii) and (vi))