

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2007-221

State of Arkansas  
87th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2009

**A Bill**

**SAG/SAG**  
**SENATE BILL**

By: Senator Altes

Filed with: Arkansas Legislative Council  
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT AUTHORIZING AUTOMATIC AWARD OF GENERAL  
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIPLOMAS TO ALL HONORABLY  
DISCHARGED UNITED STATES MILITARY MEMBERS WHO  
MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

AN ACT AUTHORIZING AUTOMATIC AWARD OF  
GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIPLOMAS  
TO ALL HONORABLY DISCHARGED UNITED  
STATES MILITARY MEMBERS WHO MEET  
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-16-140. General Educational Development diplomas for former military members.

(a) The Department of Workforce Education shall facilitate the automatic award of a General Educational Development diploma to any former member of the armed forces of the United States who meets the requirements of subsection (c) of this section.

**DRAFT**

05-22-2008 10:25 SAG010

1           (b) The Department of Workforce Education is encouraged to present the  
2 General Educational Development diplomas in conjunction with appropriate  
3 Veteran's Day programs.

4           (c) To be eligible for the automatic award of a General Educational  
5 Development diploma under this section, the former member of the armed forces  
6 of the United States shall:

7                   (1) Have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the  
8 United States;

9                   (2) Be a resident of the State of Arkansas; and

10                   (3) Have either:

11                           (A) Served a minimum of eighteen (18) consecutive months'  
12 active duty; or

13                           (B) Been rated by the United States Department of Veterans  
14 Affairs or its predecessor to have incurred a military service-connected  
15 disability.

16           (d)(1) The Department of Workforce Education shall adopt rules to  
17 implement this section.

18                   (2) The Department of Workforce Education shall consult with the  
19 Department of Veterans' Affairs in developing rules to implement this  
20 section.