

**SB2874**



**104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**State of Illinois**

**2025 and 2026**

**SB2874**

Introduced 1/16/2026, by Sen. Steve McClure

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

110 ILCS 305/9

from Ch. 144, par. 30

Amends the University of Illinois Act. In provisions concerning scholarships for the children of veterans, provides that an honorary scholarship may also be given to the children of persons who served at any time during the invasion of Panama between December 20, 1989 and January 31, 1990.

LRB104 18573 LNS 32016 b

**A BILL FOR**

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The University of Illinois Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 9 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 305/9) (from Ch. 144, par. 30)

7 Sec. 9. Scholarships for children of veterans. For each of  
8 the following periods of hostilities, each county shall be  
9 entitled, annually, to one honorary scholarship in the  
10 University, for the benefit of the children of persons who  
11 served in the armed forces of the United States, except that  
12 the total number of scholarships annually granted to  
13 recipients from each county may not exceed 3: any time between  
14 September 16, 1940 and the termination of World War II, any  
15 time during the national emergency between June 25, 1950 and  
16 January 31, 1955, any time during the Viet Nam conflict  
17 between January 1, 1961 and May 7, 1975, any time during the  
18 siege of Beirut and the Grenada Conflict between June 14, 1982  
19 and December 15, 1983, any time during the invasion of Panama  
20 between December 20, 1989 and January 31, 1990, or any time on  
21 or after August 2, 1990 and until Congress or the President  
22 orders that persons in service are no longer eligible for the  
23 Southwest Asia Service Medal, Operation Enduring Freedom, and

1 Operation Iraqi Freedom. Preference for scholarships shall be  
2 given to the children of persons who are deceased or to the  
3 children of persons who have a disability. Such scholarships  
4 shall be granted to such pupils as shall, upon public  
5 examination, conducted as the board of trustees of the  
6 University may determine, be decided to have attained the  
7 greatest proficiency in the branches of learning usually  
8 taught in the secondary schools, and who shall be of good moral  
9 character, and not less than 15 years of age. Such pupils, so  
10 selected, shall be entitled to receive, without charge for  
11 tuition, instruction in any or all departments of the  
12 University for a term of at least 4 consecutive years. Such  
13 pupils shall conform, in all respects, to the rules and  
14 regulations of the University, established for the government  
15 of the pupils in attendance.

16 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15; 99-377, eff. 8-17-15;  
17 99-642, eff. 7-28-16.)