

*****Adopted*****

AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO

House Bill NO. 396

By Senator(s) Committee

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

24 SECTION 1. The State Department of Education, with the
25 cooperation of the State Veterans' Affairs Board, shall devise and
26 implement a program which awards full high school diplomas to
27 qualifying World War II and Korean Conflict veterans. The purpose
28 of the program is to award high school diplomas to World War II
29 and Korean Conflict veterans who left high school prior to
30 graduation to enter United States military service. The
31 department and the board shall jointly develop an application
32 procedure, distribute applications and publicize the program. All
33 honorably discharged World War II and Korean Conflict veterans who
34 are residents or former residents of the state, who served between
35 September 16, 1940, and December 31, 1946, or who served on active
36 duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during the Korean
37 Conflict, and who did not return to school and complete their
38 education after the war shall be eligible to receive a diploma.
39 Diplomas may be issued posthumously. Upon approval of an
40 application, the local school board shall issue a standard high

41 school diploma for an eligible veteran from the veteran's school
42 of attendance or from the existing high school which the veteran
43 would have attended. The diploma shall clearly indicate that the
44 recipient is a veteran of World War II or the Korean Conflict and
45 that the diploma was issued at a later date due to the veteran's
46 participation in the war. The State Department of Education and
47 the State Veteran Affairs Board shall work together to provide
48 communities with information about hosting a diploma ceremony on
49 or around Veterans Day. The diploma shall be mailed to the
50 veteran or, if the veteran is deceased, to the veteran's family.

51 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
52 and after July 1, 2001.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, WITH THE
2 COOPERATION OF THE STATE VETERANS AFFAIRS BOARD, TO DEVISE AND
3 IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM WHICH AWARDS FULL HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS TO
4 QUALIFYING WORLD WAR II AND KOREAN CONFLICT VETERANS; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

6 WHEREAS, during the 1940's and 1950's, thousands of young men
7 and women across the United States left high school to serve
8 valorously in the armed forces during World War II and the Korean
9 Conflict; and

10 WHEREAS, the sacrifices of these young men and women earned
11 America its freedom, helped the United States gain status as a
12 superpower, and shaped the course of history throughout the entire
13 world; and

14 WHEREAS, after World War II and the Korean Conflict ended,
15 many of these brave veterans were unable to finish high school for
16 various reasons, but they led productive lives and served their
17 communities throughout their lifetimes; and

18 WHEREAS, awarding high school diplomas to qualifying World
19 War II and Korean Conflict veterans would be a small and overdue
20 gesture of our society's profound gratitude for the sacrifice
21 these courageous individuals made in the name of freedom; NOW,
22 THEREFORE,