

Memorandum

To: Senator Richard Grobschmidt, Chair
Members of the Senate Education Committee
From: Don Hunjadi, Executive Manager
Date: Monday, February 28, 2000
Re: **Support AB 114**
Tuition remission for children and surviving spouses of EMTs killed in the line of duty.

On behalf of the Wisconsin EMS Association and its 3,200 members I urge committee members to please support Assembly Bill 114, relating to tuition remission for children and surviving spouses of EMTs killed in the line of duty.

Current law already provides tuition remission for correctional officers, law enforcement officers, firefighters (including many EMTs) killed in the line of duty. However, a disparity exists between which EMTs are covered by the law. The law today already includes many EMTs, since many of Wisconsin's EMS services are provided as a function of the fire department. However, many EMS services, including many volunteer services, are created as a separate function of the local fire department. Therefore, one family of an EMT killed in the line of duty may be eligible and another family not, an inconsistency that should not be allowed to continue since all EMTs perform the same necessary job.

Since 1980 a total of 7 EMTs have been killed in the line of duty. Four of these EMTs' families would have been eligible for the death benefit, because of their affiliation as an EMT-firefighter. However, the remaining three families would not have been eligible for the death benefit, since the person killed was exclusively an EMT.

Once again, on behalf of EMT throughout Wisconsin I urge committee members to please support passage of Assembly Bill 114.

Thank you.





United Council

of University of Wisconsin Students, Inc.

122 State Street, Suite 500, Madison, WI 53703 Phone: (608) 263-3422 Fax: (608) 265-4070

Testimony of

Matthew Ludt, Legislative Affairs Director

on

AB 114 Tuition Remission for the Children of
Slain Emergency Medical Technicians and
Ambulance Drivers

March 22nd, 2000

Chair Grobschmidt, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. My name is Matt Ludt and I am the Legislative Affairs Director for the United Council of UW Students. United Council is the statewide student association representing approximately 140,000 students on 24 campuses.

I am here today to address Assembly Bill 114, providing tuition remission to the children of slain Emergency Medical Technicians and Ambulance Drivers. Students across the state have taken a position in support of the concept of this legislation, but they are worried about the details.

The philosophy behind this policy, and similar ones already in existence, is sound. Many citizens of Wisconsin take on dangerous roles to serve their communities. Unfortunately, some of those people pay the ultimate price in the line of duty. It is both compassionate and responsible of the State Legislature to look after their families and their future generations in this manner.

Though United Council supports the principle of this legislation, our support for this policy is conditional upon whether sum-sufficient funding is provided for this bill. There are three reasons why a sum-sufficient appropriation needs to be provided for this bill.

First of all, without funding, this bill will reduce enrollment in the UW System and displace other qualified students. Because general university funds are used to subsidize students' educations, every time approximately five students take advantage of this program, they use eight students' worth of general subsidy. Therefore, every five students enrolled in this program will displace three students completely from the university.

Also, by providing additional funding for the program, the Legislature shows an appropriate degree of respect and commitment to the UW System and its already strained budget. By contributing

funding for this program, the Legislature refrains from dictating an unfunded mandate upon the UW System and expecting students to pick up the tab.

The last reason is one of practicality. Some bills, like this one, that have been signed into law could be utilized by quite a few students, due to the dangerous nature of their parents jobs. Though, other programs like this one are minimally utilized. Either way, the number of children eligible for these programs is growing. As the number of these tuition remission programs increases, the tax upon the UW System would be great if there is no additional funding from the state.

Again, United Council supports this bill if, and only if, there is sum-sufficient funding for it. I urge the members of the Senate Education Committee to make an amendment to reflect this change. Thank you.

Vote Record

Senate Committee on Education

Date: 3/22/00
 Moved by: _____
 AB: 114 _____
 AB: _____ SB: _____
 AJR: _____ SJR: _____
 A: _____ SR: _____

Seconded by: _____
 Clearinghouse Rule: _____
 Appointment: _____
 Other: _____

A/S Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Amdt: _____
 A/S Sub Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Sub Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Sub Amdt: _____

Be recommended for:

- Passage
- Introduction
- Adoption
- Rejection

- Indefinite Postponement
- Tabling
- Concurrence
- Nonconcurrence
- Confirmation

Committee Member

- Sen. Richard Grobschmidt, Chair
- Sen. Robert Jauch
- Sen. Kevin Shibilski
- Sen. Jim Baumgart
- Sen. Judy Robson
- Sen. Jon Erpenbach
- Sen. Alberta Darling
- Sen. Carol Roessler
- Sen. Joanne Huelsman
- Sen. Mary Lazich
- Sen. Margaret Farrow

<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Totals: _____



WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR
RICHARD GROBSCHMIDT

7TH SENATE DISTRICT

March 23, 2000

TO: Members, Senate Education Committee

FROM: Senator Richard Grobschmidt, Chairman

RE: Paper Ballot – AB 114, relating to tuition reimbursement for children and surviving spouses of emergency medical services personnel killed in the line of duty.

Please return your ballots by 4:00 p.m. today, Thursday, March 23. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Motion by Senator Grobschmidt, that the Senate Education Committee recommends the concurrence of Assembly Bill 114.

AYE X

NO _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



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AYE NO

Signature: *John M. Nelson*

Date: 3-23-00



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AYE X NO

Signature: *James B. Heuler*

Date: *March 23, 2000*



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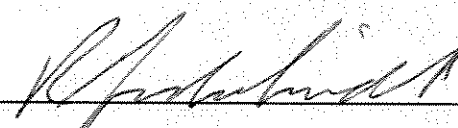
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AYE _____

NO _____

Signature: 

Date: 3-23-2000



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AYE X NO

Signature: *Jan A. Baumgart*

Date: 3-23-2000



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AYE X

NO _____

Signature: Carol A. Roeder

Date: March 22, 2000



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Signature: _____

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AYE X NO _____

Signature: Albert Darling
Date: 3/23/00



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AYE X NO _____

Signature: Margaret A. Farrow

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Signature: _____

Date: _____



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AYE

X

NO

Signature:

Mary A. Layich

Date:

3-23-00