

Mission Possible: Ball State's Student Veteran Newsletter

Upcoming Events

February 14—Valentine's Day

March 2-10—Spring Break

April 20—Walking Wounded Event (more info to come later)

May 4—Graduation!

May 11 State SVO Conference held at Ball State (more info to come later)

Ball State University

Politics and Veterans

By: Emilee Wolfley

Recently, it has come to my attention that there are two important bills going through the Indiana Senate that affect veterans and their educational benefits. The first bill is Senate Bill 0177 and it deals with giving in state tuition rates to veterans within 12 months of their separation from active duty or the military. To be eligible for in state tuition, the veteran must simply have proof of residency in Indiana, an Indiana driver's license, registered to vote in Indiana, or simply obtained employment in Indiana. Any one of these things will count towards proving

“in state residency” to qualify a veteran to pay in-state tuition if he or she is from out of state. Secondly, Senate Bill 0115 would require all state educational institutions to have several resources available to its veterans such as a centralized location for admissions, registration, and financial aid. It would also require a counselor who could deal with PTSD or any other emotional issues specific to veterans as well as academic advisors and specialized fitness facilities for disabled veterans. These are all things that our office and student Veterans on campus have

tried for many years to acquire, so this bill would make it mandatory for Ball State and other state institutions if it were passed. If you are looking for ways to help put these bills through, try contacting the senators who sponsor the bill, which can be found at this website for SB 115: <http://openstates.org/in/bills/2013/SB115/> or this website for SB 177: <http://openstates.org/in/bills/2013/SB177/>. Using your voice and becoming a more politically active is a right of all American citizens. So if you like where these bills are headed, tell everyone about it and make it happen!

