**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**S. 556**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Fanning and Senn

Companion/Similar bill(s): 3797

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Introduced in the Senate on February 21, 2023

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Military Temporary Remote School Enrollment Act

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 2/21/2023 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal‑page 12)

 2/21/2023 Senate Referred to Committee on **Education** (Senate Journal‑page 12)

 3/2/2023 Scrivener's error corrected

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=556&session=125&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[02/21/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/556_20230221.docx)

[03/02/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/556_20230302.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS by enacting THE “MILITARY TEMPORARY REMOTE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT ACT” BY ADDING SECTION 59‑63‑33 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT PUBLIC SCHOOL PUPILS COMPLY WITH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS IF THEIR PARENTS ARE TRANSFERRED TO OR ARE PENDING TRANSFER TO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THIS STATE WHILE ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY PURSUANT TO OFFICIAL MILITARY ORDERS, TO PROVIDE THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT AND COURSE REGISTRATION FROM SUCH PUPILS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS, TO PROVIDE THAT PARENTS OF SUCH STUDENTS SHALL PROVIDE CERTAIN PROOF OF RESIDENCE WITHIN TEN DAYS AFTER THE ARRIVAL DATE, TO PROVIDE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT APPLY NOTWITHSTANDING ANOTHER PROVISION OF LAW, TO PROVIDE THAT AMBIGUITIES IN CONSTRUING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT MUST BE RESOLVED IN FAVOR OF ENROLLMENT, AND TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMINOLOGY.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the “Military Temporary Remote School Enrollment Act”.

SECTION 2. Article 1, Chapter 63, Title 59 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

 Section 59‑63‑33. (A) A pupil complies with the residency requirements for school attendance in a school district if a parent or legal guardian of the pupil is transferred to or is pending transfer to a military installation within this State while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order.

 (B) A school district shall accept an application for enrollment and course registration by electronic means for a pupil who meets the requirements prescribed in subsection (A), including enrollment in a specific school or program within the school district.

 (C)(1) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who meets the requirement prescribed in subsection (A) shall provide proof of residence to the school district within ten days after the arrival date provided on official documentation. The parent or legal guardian may use the address of any of the following as proof of residence for the purposes of this subsection:

 (a) a temporary on‑base billeting facility;

 (b) a purchased or leased home or apartment; or

 (c) any federal government housing or off‑base military housing, including off‑base military housing that may be provided through a public‑private venture.

 (2) In determining what documentation may be considered acceptable for complying with the provisions of item (1), a district shall consider that traditional forms of documentation, such as utility bills or tax bills, would not be available for newly relocated military personnel.

 (D) The provisions of this section apply notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 59‑63‑30, 59‑63‑31, 59‑63‑32, or another provision of law.

 (E) Any ambiguity in construing the provisions of this section must be resolved in favor of enrolling the pupil.

 (F) For the purposes of this section:

 (1) “Active military duty” means full‑time military duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including members of the National Guard and the State Military Reserve on active duty orders.

 (2) “Military installation” means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other installation.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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