



## FISCAL NOTE

### Senate Bill 178

Committee: Ways and Means Education

Sponsor: Representative Jerry Starnes

Analyst: John Friedenreich

Date: 05/10/2023

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**Senate Bill 178** as introduced could increase the obligations of the Alabama G.I. Dependents Scholarship Program, paid from the by Education Trust Fund, by an undetermined amount dependent on the cost of education benefits provided to spouses of veterans eligible pursuant to this bill. Under current law, these benefits are limited to: (1) the Department of Defense Tuition Assistance Cap of \$250 per credit hour, currently; (2) the \$1,000 per semester cap on books and fees; and (3) after first applying for other federal, state institutional, and 3<sup>rd</sup> party scholarships awarded for the academic year. For fiscal year 2022, the average annual amount of educational benefits paid per student was approximately \$5,700.