TOPIC: Extension of Waiver of Certain Residency Requirements for Relocating Civilian Employees of the U.S. Armed Forces and Defense Contractor Employees under BRAC 2005

COMMITTEE: Committee of the Whole

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: October 21, 2011

SUMMARY: In the fall of 2006, the Board of Regents adopted a resolution in which the twelve-month time period for the establishment of Maryland residency was waived for civilian employees of the U.S. Armed Forces (including their spouses and dependent children) affected by the transfer of their jobs from other states to Maryland. A subsequent resolution extended that waiver to employees of defense contractors (including their spouses and dependent children) moving to the State of Maryland as a result of BRAC-related transfers of their positions. The two resolutions expire later this month.

Maryland fared well during the 2005 BRAC process. Military installations cited for large gains included the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Harford County and Fort George G. Meade in Anne Arundel County. In addition, the Navy National Medical Center in Bethesda, renamed the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, has experienced substantial growth as the center merged with the nearby Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Some installations closed slightly behind schedule and as a result, impacted personnel have only recently moved into the State of Maryland. This request is to extend the waiver cited in the resolutions for one year, to accommodate applicants for admission through the Fall 2012 semester.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The Committee could require that the affected employees relocating to Maryland meet the residency requirements through the normal processes set forth in USM Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT: Since tuition rates vary by institution, the impact will depend on the number of enrollees and selection of institution.

CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Regents approve an extension of the waiver cited in the attached resolutions for one year, to accommodate applicants for admission through the Fall 2012 semester. The extension will expire on October 27, 2012.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DATE:

BOARD ACTION: DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Joseph F. Vivona (301) 445-1923
Waiver of Certain Residency Requirements for Relocating Civilian Employees of the U.S. Armed Forces under BRAC 2005

Resolution

Whereas, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) was established by the United States Congress to determine a process for reducing the size of the national defense infrastructure and costs by closing and realigning military installations in the United States; and

Whereas, certain BRAC decisions have resulted in the transfer of U.S. Armed Forces civilian jobs from other states to Maryland; and

Whereas, it is important to the U.S. Armed Forces’ mission that a high percentage of the current occupants of these positions, which are administrative, engineering, and high-technology jobs requiring a high degree of education and training, in fact relocate to Maryland along with their positions to ensure the continued services of the affected civilian employees to the defense and research efforts of the U.S. Armed Forces; and

Whereas, it is the view of the U.S. Armed Forces, and of State and local officials working with the Armed Forces, that a waiver of certain requirements of the USM Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes would allow for a smooth transition of the civilian employees and their families to Maryland;

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland that:

(1) The twelve-month period required to meet the criteria set forth in the USM Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes shall be waived in the case of civilian employees of the U.S. Armed Forces whose positions are transferred from other States to Maryland as the result of the decision of the BRAC for the term of their continuous employment by the U.S. Armed Forces. This waiver shall also apply to the spouses and dependent children of the affected employees; and

(2) In lieu of documentation of the criteria set forth in policy, USM institutions shall require such employees to submit adequate documentation of a BRAC-related transfer from the Department of Defense or the employee's military unit, such as a copy of the DD Form 1614 and proof of Maryland residence, verifying their eligibility for this waiver; and

(3) This waiver shall not affect any other provision of the USM Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes; and

(4) This Resolution shall expire five years from the date of its adoption indicated below.

Approved by the USM Board of Regents on October 27, 2006.
Resolution

Whereas, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) was established by the United States Congress to determine a process for reducing the size of the national defense infrastructure and costs by closing and realigning military installations in the United States; and

Whereas, certain BRAC decisions have resulted in the transfer of certain defense contractor jobs from other states to Maryland; and

Whereas, it is important that a high percentage of the current occupants of these positions, which are administrative, engineering, and high-technology jobs requiring a high degree of education and training, in fact relocate to Maryland along with their positions; and

Whereas, it is the view that a waiver of certain requirements of the USM Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes would provide a significant inducement to affected defense contractor employees to relocate to Maryland;

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland that:

(1) The twelve-month period required to meet the criteria set forth in the USM Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes shall be waived in the case of employees of defense contractors whose positions are transferred from other States to Maryland as the result of the decision of the BRAC for the term of their continuous employment by their employer. This waiver shall also apply to the spouses and dependent children of the affected employees; and

(2) In lieu of documentation of the criteria set forth in policy, USM institutions shall require such employees to submit adequate supporting documentation of a BRAC-related transfer from their defense contractor employers establishing that the transfer was BRAC-related and proof of Maryland residence, verifying their eligibility for this waiver; and

(3) This waiver shall not affect any other provision of the USM Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes; and

(4) This Resolution shall expire on October 27, 2011, five years from the date of the adoption of a similar resolution covering civilian employees of the U. S. Armed Forces.

Approved by the USM Board of Regents on December 1, 2006.