
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: HB 396
DATE: 4/3/2001
CC: FILE

HB 396

HB 396 authorizes local school boards to award honorary high school diplomas to WW II and Korean veterans who were unable to complete their education due to their military service. HB 396 also requires the State Board of Education and the State Veterans Affairs Board to develop a uniform application for the diploma. HB 396 also authorizes the State Board of Education and the State Veterans Affairs Board to provide communities with information on hosting diploma ceremonies on or around Veterans' Day. Family members of deceased eligible veterans may apply for the diploma to be awarded posthumously.

HB 396 is a feel-good bill. There was strong support in both the Senate and the House Education committees for the bill. Vietnam veterans are not included in the bill because students'/soldiers' parents had to give them permission to enter the war if they were younger than 18.

HB 396 is effective July 1, 2001.