Educational Benefit	Eligibility	Contribution	*Based on fulltime status, unless noted.* Benefit	Education/Training Programs	Disqualifying Factors	Who Administers	Who Pays	Notes
1.Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty	Served 3 yrs or more before discharge.	$100 per mo for 12 months. Total of $1200.	$1075 per month. 36 months of fulltime student status. 10 years to use after discharge.	College, Business, Technical, Vocational schools. OJT and Apprenticeship programs. Tests for licenses/certifications. Correspondence Courses Flight training (in some cases)	Anything less than an "Honorable" Discharge. Early discharges, unless medical in nature.	Federal VA	Federal VA	
2. Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve	National Guard and Reserve members who signed a 6-yr service obligation. Completed Basic and Advanced Individual Training. Membership in unit in good standing (attending drills and training events).	None	$309 per month. 36 months of fulltime student status. 14 years to use after eligibility date.	Same as above.	Terminates membership in National Guard or Reserve unit; or becomes an unsatisfactory participant (chronically misses drills and training events.	Federal VA and Dept. of Defense coordination	Federal VA	
3. Reserve Educational Assistance Program	National Guard, Reserve, individuals called to active duty after Sep. 11,2001 and served at least 90 consecutive days under a contingency operation (e.g., Operations Iraqi or Enduring Freedom).	None	2 years or more - $860 per month. 1 year but less than 2 - $645 per month. 90 days but less than 1 - $430 per month. No time limit.	Same as above.	Terminates membership in National Guard or Reserve unit.	Federal VA	Federal VA	If Guardsman/Reservist eligible for both REAP and MGIB-Selected Reserve, he/she can choose one most beneficial.
4. Montana National Guard Scholarship Program	Montana National Guard member	None	$500 per semester.	Montana University System curriculum	Terminates membership in Montana National Guard	Dept. of Military Affairs	State of Montana	Can be used in addition to above VA programs.
5. Montana Army National Guard Tuition Assistance Program	Montana Army National Guard member	None	$250 per credit, up to $4500 per year	All Montana accredited colleges and universities	Terminates membership in Montana Army National Guard	Dept. of Military Affairs	National Guard Bureau (Dept. of Defense)	Can be used in addition to above VA programs & Guard scholarship program
6. Montana National Guard Education Benefit	Montana National Guard member	None	Waive tuition at University System schools to a maximum of 5000 credits, annually. Program not funded.	Montana University System	Terminates membership in Montana National Guard	Board of Regents	University System Currently unfunded.	
7. Current Law	Veteran with no VA education benefits	None	Policy being revised.	Montana University System	Policy being revised.	Board of Regents	Policy being revised.	

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 3-9-07
HB 294

HB294 Cost Estimates

	FY07 Tuition & Mandatory Fees (semester rate)	annual amount
MSU-Bozeman	$3,538	$7,076
UM-Missoula	$2,614	$5,228
Average	$3,076	$6,152
Flathead	$1,568	$3,136
Miles	$1,778	$3,555
Dawson	$1,532	$3,063
Average	$1,626	$3,251

Scenario: Half of the eligible students to go MSU/UM, half go to Colleges of Technology or Community Colleges

MSU/UM	50	$307,600		$615,200	
CC's	50	$162,567		$325,133	
Total		$470,167	per year	$940,333	biennial cost

WHO IS LEFT OUT?.

FROM CURRENT LAW-----

*did not elect to be part of any fed.educ.benefit program----have to select the first month of basic training.

*still have MGIB benefits or eligibility.

*those who want to attend tribal college or community college

FROM MGIB---AD/SR

*do not elect to participate, first month of basic training

*those who terminate membership (MGIB/SR)

FROM REAP----

*reserves & NG who do not get 90 days consecutive deployment.

If less than a full year deployment, only $400+ a month.

*those who elect another educ.benefit program

MGIB, MT Nat'l Guard Educ.Prog.

*if they want to leave the guard or reserves.

They stay in and their educ. often is interrupted.

*dependent on fed.funding.

FROM MT ARMY NAT'L GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE------

*Those who terminate membership in MtArmyNG

* Dependent on federal funding

HB294---includes all of these groups who are left out of other benefit programs.

Not necessary for them to contribute their own money or sign up for it early in their career.

Not contingent on federal funding

Have more choice of school---some veterans place bound, cultural barriers.

Easy to administer, accountability

Not necessary to choose between other programs; this is in appreciation of their service.