

Senate Bill 316

By: Senators Gingrey of the 37th, Guhl of the 45th, Burton of the 5th,
Mullis of the 53rd, Johnson of the 1st and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to provide an alternative method
3 of calculation of eligibility for HOPE scholarships with regard to achievement standards for
4 certain students; to provide that grades earned during a previous period of enrollment shall
5 not be considered in such calculation in certain circumstances; to provide that semester hours
6 or quarter hours attempted during a previous period of enrollment shall be considered in
7 calculating the eligibility with regard to the maximum number of semester hours or quarter
8 hours a student may receive a HOPE scholarship; to provide for related matters; to repeal
9 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

12 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
13 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by inserting a new Code section to be
14 designated Code Section 20-3-519.13 to read as follows:

15 "20-3-519.13.

16 (a) This Code section shall apply to a student who:

- 17 (1) Has resumed his or her postsecondary education following a break in enrollment of
18 five years or longer;
- 19 (2) Attempted no more than 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours during the student's
20 previous enrollment;
- 21 (3) Meets residency requirements and enrollment standards for eligibility for a HOPE
22 scholarship in accordance with Code Section 20-3-519.2 for attendance at a public
23 postsecondary institution or Code Section 20-3-519.3 for attendance at a private
24 postsecondary institution; and

- 1 (4) Is not ineligible for a HOPE scholarship for a reason listed in subsections (1) through
2 (6) of Code Section 20-3-519.1.
- 3 (b) At the option of the student, the eligibility of a student subject to this Code section with
4 regard to achievement standards shall be calculated by considering only grades earned
5 since the student resumed his or her postsecondary education, without considering grades
6 earned during his or her previous enrollment in a postsecondary institution.
- 7 (c) The semester hours or quarter hours attempted during a student's previous enrollment
8 in a postsecondary institution will be considered for purposes of determining eligibility
9 with regard to the total number of semester or quarter hours a student is eligible to receive
10 a HOPE scholarship, as set out in subsection (g) of Code Section 20-3-519.2 for students
11 attending public postsecondary institutions and subsection (f) of Code Section 20-3-519.3
12 for students attending postsecondary private institutions."

13

SECTION 2.

14 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.