

House Bill 311

By: Representatives Fleming of the 117th, Harbin of the 118th, O'Neal of the 146th, Yates of the 73rd, Talton of the 145th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Subpart 10A of Part 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code
2 of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia HERO Scholarship, so as to change the
3 definition of the term "qualifying term of service"; to change the date for qualifying service;
4 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Subpart 10A of Part 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
8 Annotated, relating to the Georgia HERO Scholarship, is amended by revising paragraph (5)
9 of Code Section 20-3-485, relating to definitions relative to the Georgia HERO Scholarship,
10 as follows:

11 "(5) 'Qualifying term of service' means deployment overseas for active service on or after
12 ~~the effective date of this subpart~~ September 11, 2001, to a location or locations outside
13 of the United States and its territories designated by the United States Department of
14 Defense as a combat zone for a consecutive period of at least 181 days or, in the case of
15 an individual who is killed or receives a 100 percent disability as a result of injuries
16 received in such combat zone, any period of time on active service in such combat zone;
17 provided, however, that any person who fails to serve the full 181 consecutive days
18 because he or she was evacuated from the combat zone due to severe injuries shall be
19 deemed to have completed a qualifying term of service."

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 Said subpart is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-486, relating
22 to grants to eligible students, as follows:

23 "(b) There is granted to each eligible student under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of
24 Code Section 20-3-485 attending an approved school a Georgia HERO Scholarship grant
25 in the sum of \$2,000.00 per award year. Such student shall be eligible for one award year

1 for each period of 181 consecutive days that his or her parent was deployed overseas on
2 active service on or after ~~May 3, 2005~~ September 11, 2001, to a location or locations
3 outside of the United States and its territories designated by the United States Department
4 of Defense as a combat zone; provided, however, that a student whose parent was killed
5 or received a 100 percent disability as a result of injuries received in such combat zone
6 shall receive up to a maximum of four award years regardless of the time such student's
7 parent was on active service in such combat zone. No person shall be eligible to receive
8 grant assistance provided under this subsection in excess of \$8,000.00."

9 **SECTION 3.**

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