

Senate Bill 480

By: Senators Williams of the 19th, Fort of the 39th, Tate of the 38th and Reed of the 35th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to scholarships, loans, and grants, so as to change certain definitions; to repeal
3 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

6 Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
7 scholarships, loans, and grants, is amended by revising subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2)
8 of Code Section 20-3-411, relating to definitions relative to tuition equalization grants at
9 private colleges and universities, as follows:

10 "(A) A nonproprietary institution of higher education located in this state which is not
11 a branch of the university system; which is accredited by the Southern Association of
12 Colleges and Schools; which is not a graduate level school or college of theology or
13 divinity; and which is not presently receiving state funds under Article 4 of this chapter;
14 provided, however, that an institution which otherwise meets the requirements of this
15 definition and of this subpart except for the lack of accreditation by the Southern
16 Association of Colleges and Schools shall be deemed to be an 'approved school' ~~during~~
17 ~~the period that the institution holds candidate for accreditation status with the Southern~~
18 ~~Association of Colleges and Schools~~ if the institution was previously accredited by the
19 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools within the last six years;"

20 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

21 Said article is further amended by revising subparagraph (A) of paragraph (6) of Code
22 Section 20-3-519, relating to definitions relative to HOPE scholarships and grants, as
23 follows:

24 "(A) Located in Georgia and is currently or within the last six years has been accredited
25 ~~as such~~ by:

- 1 (i) The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
2 (ii) The Georgia Accrediting Commission;
3 (iii) The Georgia Association of Christian Schools;
4 (iv) The Association of Christian Schools International;
5 (v) The Georgia Private School Accreditation Council; or
6 (vi) ~~The Accrediting Commission for Independent Study; or~~
7 ~~(vii) The Southern Association of Independent Schools; or~~"

8 **SECTION 3.**

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