

Senate Bill 423

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd, Jones of the 10th, Sims of the 12th, Davenport of the 44th,  
Paris of the 26th 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 add a maximum annual  
3 household income requirement for purposes of eligibility for HOPE scholarships and grants;  
4 to provide for an annual determination; to provide for hardship waivers; to provide for related  
5 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
9 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by adding a new subsection to Code  
10 Section 20-3-519.1, relating to eligibility for scholarships and grants, to read as follows:

11 "(c)(1) A student whose family annual household income exceeds \$140,000.00 shall not  
12 be eligible for a HOPE scholarship or HOPE grant.

13 (2) In determining the family annual household income level, the commission shall use  
14 the student's parents' or guardian's federal adjusted gross income for the immediately  
15 preceding tax year of which information is available.

16 (3) The commission is authorized to grant hardship waivers to the application of this  
17 subsection for:

18 (A) Families with more than four dependent children;

19 (B) Families with one or more dependent children with disabilities;

20 (C) Families in which one or both parents are active duty military personnel; and

21 (D) Students who live with guardians and are not dependents of their parents.

22 (4) A student shall demonstrate that he or she meets the income eligibility requirements  
23 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection to maintain eligibility annually.

24 (5) The commission is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations as it deems  
25 necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

26 (6) This subsection shall apply beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year."

27

**SECTION 2.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.