

Senate Bill 111

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd, Fort of the 39th, Tate of the 38th, Henson of the 41st, Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd 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 revise the definition of a Zell
3 Miller Scholar; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
8 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by revising paragraph (27) of Code
9 Section 20-3-519, relating to definitions, as follows:

10 "(27) 'Zell Miller Scholar' means a student ~~that~~ who has met the applicable eligibility
11 requirements to receive a HOPE scholarship in accordance with Code Section 20-3-519.2
12 and:

13 (A) As an incoming freshman:

14 (i) Having graduated from ~~an~~ a private eligible high school with a grade point
15 average of at least 3.7 calculated in accordance with Code Section 20-2-157 and
16 having received a score of at least 1,200 combined critical reading score and math
17 score on a single administration of the SAT or an ACT composite scale score of at
18 least 26;

19 (ii) Having graduated from ~~an~~ a public eligible high school ~~as a valedictorian or~~
20 ~~salutatorian~~ in the top 3 percent of such student's graduating class; or

21 (iii) Having completed a home study program meeting the requirements of
22 subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690, having received a score of at least 1,200
23 combined critical reading score and math score on a single administration of the SAT
24 or an ACT composite scale score of at least 26, and earning a cumulative grade point
25 average of at least 3.3 at an eligible postsecondary institution at the end of the quarter
26 or semester in which the student has attempted 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours,

27 provided that such student shall be eligible to receive a retroactive scholarship for
28 such student's freshman year to be paid at the end of the freshman year; and
29 (B) As a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student who met the
30 requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, having a cumulative grade point
31 average of at least 3.3 at the checkpoints set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of
32 Code Section 20-3-519.2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a student that entered an
33 eligible postsecondary institution as a freshman between July 1, 2007, and June 30,
34 2011, and met the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph may become a
35 Zell Miller Scholar as a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student.
36 A student ~~that~~ who loses eligibility to be a Zell Miller Scholar for any reason may regain
37 eligibility one time if the student requalifies at one of the checkpoints set forth in
38 paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2."

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SECTION 2.

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