

House Bill 565

By: Representatives Clark of the 98th, Neal of the 2nd, Evans of the 42nd, Ramsey of the 72nd, Hitchens of the 161st, 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 that incarcerated
3 individuals who qualify for HOPE GED vouchers may use such vouchers within 12 months
4 of release; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other 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 Code Section 20-3-519.6,
9 relating to HOPE GED vouchers, as follows:

10 "20-3-519.6.

11 Subject to the amounts appropriated by the General Assembly and provisions relating to
12 the shortfall reserve in Code Section 50-27-13, a HOPE GED voucher in the amount of
13 \$500.00 shall be available once to each student receiving a general educational
14 development (GED) diploma awarded by the Department of Technical and Adult
15 Education, now known as the Technical College System of Georgia, after June 30, 1993.
16 Such voucher shall be issued to such student upon enrollment in any eligible postsecondary
17 institution in Georgia within 24 months from the date the general educational development
18 (GED) diploma was awarded to the student and may only be used to cover postsecondary
19 costs of attendance at such institution; provided, however, that for an individual who
20 becomes eligible for such voucher while he or she is incarcerated in a penal institution in
21 this state, such voucher may be used by such individual within 12 months from the date of
22 release from the penal institution."

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

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.