

Senate Bill 395

By: Senators James of the 35th, Butler of the 55th, Davenport of the 44th, Seay of the 34th and Tate of the 38th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-519.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 eligibility for scholarships or grants, so as to provide for the residency of students who have
3 been in the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice so that such students may qualify
4 for HOPE scholarships or grants without waiting 12 additional months; 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 Code Section 20-3-519.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility
9 for scholarships and grants, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

10 "(a) A student is eligible for any scholarship or grant described in this part if the student:

11 (1) Meets residency requirements by:

12 (A)(i) Being classified as a legal resident of Georgia as established by the program
13 regulations promulgated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission which shall be
14 based upon the in-state tuition policy of the board of regents and the in-state tuition
15 guidelines set by the Technical College System of Georgia; and

16 (ii)(I) If the student was classified as a legal resident of Georgia at the time of
17 graduation from high school or from a home study program meeting the
18 requirements of Code Section 20-2-690, then the student must have met the
19 requirements set forth in division (i) of this subparagraph for a period of at least 12
20 months immediately prior to the first day of classes for which the scholarship or
21 grant is to be awarded; provided, however, that any student who has been in the
22 custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice at any time during the 12 months
23 immediately prior to the first day of classes for which the scholarship or grant is to
24 be awarded shall be classified as domiciled in, and a legal resident of, Georgia for
25 the time that such student was in such custody and such time shall be applied toward

26 the computation of the 12 months required by this subdivision and the computation
27 of time for residency established by the program regulations of the commission; or
28 (II) If the student was not classified as a legal resident at the time of graduation
29 from high school or from a home study program meeting the requirements of Code
30 Section 20-2-690, then the student must have met the requirements set forth in
31 division (i) of this subparagraph for a period of at least 24 months immediately prior
32 to the first day of classes for which the scholarship or grant is to be awarded; or
33 (B) Being classified as a legal resident of Georgia if such student is an active duty
34 military service member or the spouse or dependent child of an active duty military
35 service member and the active duty military service member is stationed in Georgia or
36 lists Georgia as their home of record; and
37 (2) Meets all applicable requirements of this part relating to the relevant scholarship or
38 grant and applicable to the student."

39

SECTION 2.

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