

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 20-3-519.2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility requirements for a HOPE scholarship, so as to eliminate the seven-year limitation from the student's graduation from high school or the equivalent thereof on receiving a HOPE scholarship; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 20-3-519.2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility requirements for a HOPE scholarship, is amended by revising subsection (d) as follows:

"(d) A student may receive the HOPE scholarship until the first of these events:

(1) The student has earned a baccalaureate or first professional degree; or

(2) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours; ~~or~~

~~(3) Beginning with those students receiving a HOPE scholarship for the first time on or after July 1, 2011, seven years from a student's graduation from high school or the equivalent thereof as determined by the Georgia Student Finance Commission in its rules and regulations; provided, however, that for a student who serves in the military during such seven-year period, any such military service served as active duty shall not count against the seven-year period. A student that is ineligible to receive a HOPE scholarship pursuant to this paragraph but who received the HOPE scholarship during the 2010-2011 academic year shall continue to be eligible for the HOPE scholarship until June 30, 2015, as long as such student meets all other eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to, paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection."~~

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.