

House Bill 24

By: Representatives Evans of the 42nd, Tanner of the 9th, Chandler of the 105th, Clark of the 101st, Frye of the 118th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-519 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 definitions relative to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to provide for eligibility as a Zell
3 Miller Scholarship Scholar for students who do not qualify as freshmen; to provide for
4 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 Code Section 20-3-519 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions
8 relative to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by revising paragraph (27) as follows:
9 "(27) 'Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar' means a student ~~that~~ who has met the applicable
10 eligibility requirements to receive a HOPE scholarship in accordance with Code Section
11 20-3-519.2 and:

12 (A) As an incoming freshman:

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

17 (ii) Having graduated from an eligible high school as a valedictorian or salutatorian;
18 or

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

27 (B) As a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student;
 28 (i) Who who met the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, having a
 29 cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 at the checkpoints set forth in paragraph
 30 (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2. Notwithstanding ~~the foregoing~~ this
 31 division, a student ~~that~~ who entered an eligible postsecondary institution as a
 32 freshman between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2011, and met the requirements of
 33 subparagraph (A) of this paragraph may become a Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar as
 34 a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student; or
 35 (ii) Who did not meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, having
 36 a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 at two consecutive checkpoints set
 37 forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2.
 38 A student ~~that~~ who loses eligibility to be a Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar for any reason
 39 may regain eligibility one time if the student requalifies at one of the checkpoints set
 40 forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2.”

41 **SECTION 2.**

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