

House Bill 1072

By: Representatives Coomer of the 14<sup>th</sup>, Abrams of the 89<sup>th</sup>, Rogers of the 29<sup>th</sup>, Blackmon of the 146<sup>th</sup>, Harden of the 148<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-374 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 service cancelable loan fund and authorized types of service cancelable educational loans  
3 financed by state funds and issued by the Georgia Student Finance Authority, so as to remove  
4 ineligibility for such loans for members of the Georgia National Guard also receiving HOPE  
5 scholarship or HOPE grant funds; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;  
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

9 Code Section 20-3-374 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to service  
10 cancelable loan fund and authorized types of service cancelable educational loans financed  
11 by state funds and issued by the Georgia Student Finance Authority, is amended by revising  
12 paragraph (2) of subsection (b) as follows:

13 "(2) **Georgia National Guard members.** The authority is authorized to make service  
14 cancelable educational loans to residents of Georgia who are eligible members of the  
15 Georgia National Guard and who are enrolled at the undergraduate level in a private or  
16 public college or public postsecondary technical or vocational school located in the state.  
17 Members of the Georgia National Guard who are in good standing according to  
18 applicable regulations of the National Guard shall be eligible to apply for a loan. Such  
19 loans shall be on the terms and conditions set by the authority in consultation with the  
20 Department of Defense, provided that any such loan shall not exceed an amount equal to  
21 the actual tuition charged to the recipient for the period of enrollment in an educational  
22 institution or the tuition charged by the University of Georgia for the period of enrollment  
23 at the university, whichever is less. ~~Students eligible for the HOPE scholarship or HOPE~~  
24 ~~grant at an eligible public or private postsecondary institution are not eligible to receive~~  
25 ~~this loan during a school term in which they are receiving HOPE scholarship or HOPE~~  
26 ~~grant funds.~~ A loan recipient shall not be eligible to receive loan assistance provided for

27 in this paragraph for more than five academic years of study. Educational loans may be  
28 made to full-time and half-time students. Upon the recipient's attainment of a  
29 baccalaureate degree from an institution or cessation of status as an active member,  
30 whichever occurs first, the loan provided by this paragraph shall be discontinued. The  
31 loan provided by this paragraph may be suspended at the discretion of the authority for  
32 a recipient's failure to maintain good military standing as an active member or failure to  
33 maintain sufficient academic standing and good academic progress and program pursuit.  
34 Loans made under this paragraph shall be repayable in cash, with interest thereon, or,  
35 upon satisfactory completion of a quarter, semester, year, or other period of study as  
36 determined by the authority; graduation; termination of enrollment in school; or  
37 termination of this assistance with approval of the authority, shall be canceled in  
38 consideration of the student's retaining membership in the Georgia National Guard during  
39 the period in which the loan is applicable. The adjutant general of Georgia shall certify  
40 eligibility and termination of eligibility of students for educational loans and eligibility  
41 for cancellation of educational loans by members of the Georgia National Guard in  
42 accordance with regulations of the authority;"

43

**SECTION 2.**

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