

House Bill 218

By: Representatives Williams of the 145<sup>th</sup>, Jasperse of the 11<sup>th</sup>, Gambill of the 15<sup>th</sup>, Holcomb of the 81<sup>st</sup>, Ehrhart of the 36<sup>th</sup>, 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 for eligibility  
3 requirements to receive the HOPE scholarship as a Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar relative  
4 to students who graduated from an ineligible high school or a home study program; to extend  
5 the period during which a student may receive a HOPE scholarship; to provide for  
6 requirements for continued eligibility for certain students; to provide for related matters; to  
7 provide for effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
11 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended in Code Section 20-3-519 of the  
12 Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions relative to HOPE scholarships  
13 and grants, by revising division (27)(A)(iii) as follows:

14 "(iii) Having completed a home study program meeting the requirements of  
15 subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690 or having graduated from a high school  
16 which is not an eligible high school, having received a score in the ~~ninety-third~~  
17 ninety-second percentile or higher on the ACT, on the combined critical reading and  
18 math portions on a single administration of the SAT administered prior to March 1,  
19 2016, or on the total score on a single administration of the SAT administered on or  
20 after March 1, 2016; or"

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 Said part is further amended in said Code section by revising division (27)(A)(iii) as follows:

23 "(iii) Having completed a home study program meeting the requirements of  
24 subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690 or having graduated from a high school  
25 which is not an eligible high school, having received a score in the ~~ninety-third~~

26 ninety-second percentile or higher on the ACT, on the combined critical reading and  
 27 math portions on a single administration of the SAT administered prior to March 1,  
 28 2016, or on the total score on a single administration of the SAT administered on or  
 29 after March 1, 2016; or"

30 **SECTION 3.**

31 Said part is further amended in Code Section 20-3-519.2, relating to eligibility requirements  
 32 for a HOPE scholarship, by revising paragraph (3) of subsection (d) as follows:

33 "(3) Beginning with those students receiving a HOPE scholarship for the first time on or  
 34 after July 1, ~~2011~~ 2019, ~~seven~~ ten years from a student's graduation from high school or  
 35 the equivalent thereof as determined by the Georgia Student Finance Commission in its  
 36 rules and regulations; provided, however, that for a student who serves in the military  
 37 during such ~~seven-year~~ ten-year period, any such active duty military service ~~served as~~  
 38 ~~active duty~~ shall not count against the ~~seven-year~~ ten-year period nor constitute a failure  
 39 to be enrolled. ~~A student that is ineligible to receive a HOPE scholarship pursuant to this~~  
 40 ~~paragraph but who received the HOPE scholarship during the 2010-2011 academic year~~  
 41 ~~shall continue to be eligible for the HOPE scholarship until June 30, 2015, as long as such~~  
 42 ~~student meets all other eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to, paragraphs~~  
 43 ~~(1) and (2) of this subsection.~~ Any student enrolled full time or part time in a college or  
 44 university eligible for HOPE scholarships after June 30, 2019, shall become and remain  
 45 eligible to receive a HOPE scholarship under the provisions of this paragraph, so long as  
 46 such student meets all other eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to, the  
 47 requirements provided for in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection."

48 **SECTION 4.**

49 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2019; except that Section 2 of this Act shall  
 50 become effective on July 1, 2020.

51 **SECTION 5.**

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