

House Bill 218 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Williams of the 145th, Jasperse of the 11th, Gambill of the 15th, Holcomb of the 81st, Ehrhart of the 36th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-519.2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 eligibility requirements for HOPE scholarships, so as to extend the period during which a
3 student may receive a HOPE scholarship; to provide for requirements for continued
4 eligibility for certain students; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
5 for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

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

11 "(3) ~~Beginning with~~ For those students receiving a HOPE scholarship for the first time
12 ~~on or after~~ ~~between~~ July 1, 2011, ~~and June 30, 2019~~, seven years from a student's
13 graduation from high school or the equivalent thereof as determined by the Georgia
14 Student Finance Commission in its rules and regulations; provided, however, that for a
15 student who serves in the military during such seven-year period, any such active duty
16 military service ~~served as active duty~~ shall not count against the seven-year period ~~nor~~
17 ~~constitute a failure to be enrolled. A student that is ineligible to receive a HOPE~~
18 ~~scholarship pursuant to this paragraph but who received the HOPE scholarship during the~~
19 ~~2010-2011 academic year shall continue to be eligible for the HOPE scholarship until~~
20 ~~June 30, 2015, as long as such student meets all other eligibility requirements, including,~~
21 ~~but not limited to, paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection. For those students receiving~~
22 ~~a HOPE scholarship for the first time on or after July 1, 2019, ten years from a student's~~
23 ~~graduation from high school or the equivalent thereof as determined by the Georgia~~
24 ~~Student Finance Commission in its rules and regulations; provided, however, that for a~~
25 ~~student who serves in the military during such ten-year period, any such active duty~~
26 ~~military service shall not count against the ten-year period nor constitute a failure to be~~

27 enrolled. Any full-time or part-time student receiving a HOPE scholarship and enrolled
28 in an eligible postsecondary institution after June 30, 2019, shall remain eligible for a
29 HOPE scholarship pursuant to this paragraph, provided that such student meets all other
30 eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to, those set forth in paragraphs (1) and
31 (2) of subsection (b) of this Code section."

32 **SECTION 2.**

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