

House Bill 928

By: Representatives Williams of the 145th, Jasperse of the 11th, Chandler of the 105th,
Mathiak of the 73rd, and Gardner of the 57th

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 extend the period during which a student may receive a HOPE scholarship; to provide for requirements for continued eligibility for certain students; to amend Code Section 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility requirements for a HOPE grant, so as to provide additional courses of study for an associate's degree eligible for a HOPE grant; to extend the period of eligibility for a HOPE grant; 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 paragraph (3) of subsection (d) as follows:

"(3) Beginning with those students receiving a HOPE scholarship for the first time on or after July 1, ~~2011~~ 2018, ~~seven~~ 15 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~~ 15 year period, any such active duty military service ~~served as active duty~~ shall not count against the ~~seven-year~~ 15 year period nor constitute a failure to be enrolled. ~~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.~~ Any student enrolled full-time or part-time in a college or university eligible for HOPE scholarships after June 30, 2018, shall become and remain eligible to receive a HOPE scholarship under the provisions of this paragraph as long as

27 such student meets all other eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to, the
28 requirements provided for in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 Code Section 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility
31 requirements for a HOPE grant, is amended by revising subsection (a.1) as follows:

32 "(a.1) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this Code section, a student seeking an ~~associate~~
33 associate's degree at a branch of the Technical College System of Georgia who received
34 a high school diploma pursuant to Code Section 20-2-149.2 through completion of:

35 (1) A technical college diploma program and all postsecondary academic education and
36 technical education and training prerequisites for any state, national, or industry
37 occupational certifications or licenses required to work in the field; ~~or~~

38 (2) At least two technical college certificate of credit programs in one specific career
39 pathway and all postsecondary academic education and technical education and training
40 prerequisites for any state, national, or industry occupational certifications or licenses
41 required to work in the field as determined by the Technical College System of Georgia;
42 or

43 (3) An associate's degree and all postsecondary academic education and technical
44 education and training prerequisites for any state, national, or industry occupational
45 certifications or licenses required to work in the field as determined by the Technical
46 College System of Georgia; provided, however, that at the time of commencement of the
47 student's associate degree program, such associate's degree shall be identified as one
48 expected to lead to a minimum livable wage one year after graduation as reported by the
49 Office of Student Achievement under the provisions of paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection
50 (a) of Code Section 20-14-27 unless the associate degree program matriculates to a
51 bachelor degree program in the university system

52 shall be eligible for a HOPE grant as long as he or she meets the residency requirements
53 set forth in subsection (a) of Code Section 20-3-519.1 and the requirements of paragraphs
54 (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of this Code section. The HOPE grant shall be used to cover
55 the cost of up to ~~30~~ 60 degree hours to obtain an ~~associate~~ associate's degree."

56 **SECTION 3.**

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