

House Bill 1085

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13<sup>th</sup>, Martin of the 49<sup>th</sup>, Smyre of the 135<sup>th</sup>, Dubnik of the 29<sup>th</sup>, and Newton of the 123<sup>rd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-411 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 definitions regarding tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities, so as to  
3 expand the definition of "approved school"; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 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 20-3-411 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions  
8 regarding tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities, is amended by  
9 revising subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) as follows:

10 "(B)(i) A qualified proprietary institution of higher education located in this state  
11 which is a baccalaureate degree-granting institution of higher education; which is  
12 accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; which is not a Bible  
13 school or college (or, at the graduate level, a school or college of theology or  
14 divinity); which admits as regular students only persons who have a high school  
15 diploma, a general educational development (GED) diploma, or a degree from an  
16 accredited postsecondary institution; whose students are eligible to participate in the  
17 federal Pell Grant program; which has been reviewed and approved for operation and  
18 for receipt of tuition equalization grant funds by the Georgia Nonpublic  
19 Postsecondary Education Commission; which is domiciled and incorporated in the  
20 State of Georgia; which has been in existence in the State of Georgia for at least ten  
21 years; and which met all of the requirements of this subparagraph by January 1, 2011;  
22 provided, however, that the criteria for approval for receipt of tuition equalization  
23 grant funds shall include but not be limited to areas of course study, quality of  
24 instruction, student placement rate, research and library sources, faculty, support staff,  
25 financial resources, physical plant facilities resources, and support and equipment  
26 resources.

27 (ii) A qualified proprietary institution of higher education located in this state which  
 28 is a baccalaureate degree-granting institution of higher education; which is accredited  
 29 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or by a regional accrediting  
 30 agency recognized by the United States Department of Education; which is accredited  
 31 by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education; which has a National Council  
 32 Licensure Examination four-year average passage rate of at least 85 percent; which  
 33 is not a Bible school or college (or, at the graduate level, a school or college of  
 34 theology or divinity); which admits as regular students only persons who have a high  
 35 school diploma, a general educational development (GED) diploma, or a degree from  
 36 an accredited postsecondary institution; whose students are eligible to participate in  
 37 the federal Pell Grant program; which has been reviewed and approved for operation  
 38 and for receipt of tuition equalization grant funds by the Georgia Nonpublic  
 39 Postsecondary Education Commission; which has a physical location in the State of  
 40 Georgia; and which has been in existence in the State of Georgia for at least seven  
 41 years.

42 ~~(ii)~~(iii) Any proprietary institution that is otherwise qualified pursuant to division (i)  
 43 of this subparagraph on July 1, 1995, shall be deemed to be eligible for receipt of  
 44 tuition equalization grant funds subject, however, to any subsequent review of such  
 45 approval pursuant to any proper regulations which may thereafter be adopted in  
 46 accordance with paragraph (10) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-250.5  
 47 applicable to all qualified proprietary institutions.

48 ~~(iii)~~(iv) Any proprietary institution of higher education that is otherwise qualified  
 49 pursuant to division (i) of this subparagraph on January 1, 2011, shall continue to be  
 50 an approved school pursuant to this paragraph as long as it continues to meet the  
 51 requirements of division (i) of this subparagraph as such existed on March 14, 2011."

52 **SECTION 2.**

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