

House Bill 310

By: Representatives Wilkerson of the 38th, Evans of the 57th, Burnough of the 77th, Carpenter of the 4th, and Greene of the 154th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, so as to
2 revise the definition of the term "Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar" by removing the SAT and
3 ACT score requirements for students who graduate from eligible high schools; to update the
4 SAT and ACT requirement for eligible high school students relating to dual enrollment; to
5 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **PART I**
8 **SECTION 1-1.**

9 Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, is amended in
10 Code Section 20-3-519, relating to definitions regarding HOPE scholarships and grants, by
11 revising paragraph (27) as follows:

12 "(27) 'Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar' means a student who has met the applicable
13 eligibility requirements to receive a HOPE scholarship in accordance with Code Section
14 20-3-519.2 and:

15 (A) As an incoming freshman:

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- 16 (i) Having graduated from an eligible high school with a grade point average of at
17 least 3.7 calculated in accordance with Code Section 20-2-157 ~~and having received~~
18 ~~a score of at least 1,200 on the combined critical reading and math portions on a~~
19 ~~single administration of the SAT administered prior to March 1, 2016, or on the total~~
20 ~~score on a single administration of the SAT administered on or after March 1, 2016,~~
21 ~~or an ACT composite scale score of at least 26;~~
- 22 (ii) Having graduated from an eligible high school as a valedictorian or salutatorian;
- 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 percentile or higher on the ACT, on the combined critical reading and math portions
27 on a single administration of the SAT administered prior to March 1, 2016, or on the
28 total score on a single administration of the SAT administered on or after March 1,
29 2016; or
- 30 (iv) Having completed a home study program meeting the requirements of
31 subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690 or having graduated from a high school
32 which is not an eligible high school, having received a score of at least 1,200 on the
33 combined critical reading and math portions on a single administration of the SAT
34 administered prior to March 1, 2016, or on the total score on a single administration
35 of the SAT administered on or after March 1, 2016, or an ACT composite scale score
36 of at least 26, and earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 at an
37 eligible postsecondary institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the
38 student has attempted 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours, provided that such
39 student shall be eligible to receive a retroactive scholarship for such student's
40 freshman year to be paid at the end of the freshman year; and
- 41 (B) As a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student who met the
42 requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, having a cumulative grade point

43 average of at least 3.3 at the checkpoints set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of
 44 Code Section 20-3-519.2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a student who entered an
 45 eligible postsecondary institution as a freshman between July 1, 2007, and June 30,
 46 2011, and met the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph may become a
 47 Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar as a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional
 48 student.

49 A student who loses eligibility to be a Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar for any reason may
 50 regain eligibility one time if the student requalifies at one of the checkpoints set forth in
 51 paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2."

52 **PART II**

53 **SECTION 2-1.**

54 Said title is further amended in Code Section 20-2-161.3, relating to the Dual Enrollment
 55 Act, purpose, dual credit courses, eligibility for participation, and eligibility for payment, by
 56 revising division (b)(9)(B)(ii) as follows:

57 "(ii) Has obtained prior to the beginning of the term of dual enrollment coursework
 58 ~~an SAT or ACT test score that would meet the assessment requirements of a Zell~~
 59 ~~Miller Scholar pursuant to division (27)(A)(I) of Code Section 20-3-519~~ a total score
 60 of at least 1,200 on a single administration of the SAT or an ACT composite scale
 61 score of at least 26 and is taking eligible core courses at any eligible postsecondary
 62 institution; or"

63 **PART III**

64 **SECTION 3-1.**

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