

## House Bill 316

By: Representatives Evans of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Williams of the 168<sup>th</sup>, Greene of the 154<sup>th</sup>, and Wilkerson of the 38<sup>th</sup>

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 that all HOPE grants  
3 shall equal the student's undergraduate tuition amount for the current academic standard year,  
4 subject to certain conditions; to repeal the Zell Miller Grant Scholar program; to provide for  
5 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
9 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended in Code Section 20-3-519, relating to  
10 definitions, by revising paragraph (26.1) as follows:

11 ~~"(26.1) 'Zell Miller Grant Scholar' means a student who has met the applicable eligibility~~  
12 ~~requirements to receive a HOPE grant in accordance with Code Section 20-3-519.5 and~~  
13 ~~earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 at the end of any quarter or~~  
14 ~~semester in which the student has attended courses toward a diploma or certificate."~~

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 Said part is further amended in Code Section 20-3-519.5, relating to eligibility requirements  
17 for a HOPE grant and award amount, by revising subsections (d) and (d.1) as follows:

18 "(d) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the General Assembly and provisions relating  
19 to the Lottery for Education Account in Code Section 50-27-13, a HOPE grant awarded  
20 under this Code section shall equal the ~~HOPE award amount~~ student's current academic  
21 year standard undergraduate tuition amount.

22 ~~(d.1) For each semester or quarter following a semester or quarter that it is determined that~~  
23 ~~a student is a Zell Miller Grant Scholar, a student shall be awarded an amount in addition~~  
24 ~~to the HOPE award amount equal to the difference between the HOPE award amount and~~  
25 ~~the then current academic year standard undergraduate tuition amount at the institution to~~  
26 ~~be paid or the exceptional tuition rate amount in effect on January 1, 2014, for programs~~  
27 ~~with exceptional tuition rates in effect on January 1, 2014. Eligibility to be a Zell Miller~~  
28 ~~Grant Scholar shall be determined on a semester or quarter basis and paid for the next~~  
29 ~~semester or quarter in which a student is enrolled. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Zell~~  
30 ~~Miller Grant Scholar shall also receive one semester or quarter of retroactive payment if~~  
31 ~~the student was not eligible to be a Zell Miller Grant Scholar because he or she had no~~  
32 ~~cumulative grade point average."~~

33 **SECTION 3.**

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