

House Bill 89

By: Representatives Evans of the 57th, Frye of the 118th, Carpenter of the 4th, Smyre of the 135th, Buckner of the 137th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-519 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 definitions relative to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to provide for eligibility as a Zell
3 Miller Scholarship Scholar for students who do not qualify as freshmen; to provide for
4 related matters; to repeal 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 20-3-519 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions
8 relative to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by revising paragraph (27) as follows:

9 "(27) 'Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar' means a student who has met the applicable
10 eligibility requirements to receive a HOPE scholarship in accordance with Code Section
11 20-3-519.2 and:

12 (A) As an incoming freshman:

13 (i) Having graduated from an eligible high school with a grade point average of at
14 least 3.7 calculated in accordance with Code Section 20-2-157 and having received
15 a score of at least 1,200 on the combined critical reading and math portions on a
16 single administration of the SAT administered prior to March 1, 2016, or on the total

17 score on a single administration of the SAT administered on or after March 1, 2016,
18 or an ACT composite scale score of at least 26;

19 (ii) Having graduated from an eligible high school as a valedictorian or salutatorian;
20 (iii) Having completed a home study program meeting the requirements of subsection
21 (c) of Code Section 20-2-690 or having graduated from a high school which is not an
22 eligible high school, having received a score in the ninety-third percentile or higher
23 on the ACT, on the combined critical reading and math portions on a single
24 administration of the SAT administered prior to March 1, 2016, or on the total score
25 on a single administration of the SAT administered on or after March 1, 2016; or
26 (iv) Having completed a home study program meeting the requirements of subsection
27 (c) of Code Section 20-2-690 or having graduated from a high school which is not an
28 eligible high school, having received a score of at least 1,200 on the combined critical
29 reading and math portions on a single administration of the SAT administered prior
30 to March 1, 2016, or on the total score on a single administration of the SAT
31 administered on or after March 1, 2016, or an ACT composite scale score of at least
32 26, and earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 at an eligible
33 postsecondary institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has
34 attempted 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours, provided that such student shall be
35 eligible to receive a retroactive scholarship for such student's freshman year to be paid
36 at the end of the freshman year; and

37 (B) As a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student:

38 (i) Who ~~who~~ met the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, having a
39 cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 at the checkpoints set forth in paragraph
40 (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2. Notwithstanding ~~the foregoing~~ this
41 division, a student who entered an eligible postsecondary institution as a freshman
42 between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2011, and met the requirements of subparagraph

43 (A) of this paragraph may become a Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar as a sophomore,
44 junior, senior, or first professional student; or

45 (ii) Who did not meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, having
46 a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 at two consecutive checkpoints set
47 forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2.

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

51 **SECTION 2.**

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