

HOUSE BILL 15

By Brooks H

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-913, is amended by deleting the subsection (b) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b) Except as set forth in subsection (c) and §§ 49-4-919, 49-4-930, 49-4-931 and 49-4-937, a student who receives a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as an entering freshman in academic year 2012-2013 and in any academic year thereafter may receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship until the first of the following events:

- (1) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree;
- (2) The student has received the HOPE scholarship for eight (8)

semesters; or

(3) Four (4) years have passed from the date of the student's initial enrollment at any postsecondary institution.

(c) A student who receives a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as an entering freshman in academic year 2012-2013 and in any academic year thereafter and who is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program requiring more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours in length may receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship until the first of the following events:

- (1) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree;
- (2) The student has received the HOPE scholarship for ten (10)

semesters; or

(3) Five (5) years have passed from the date of the student's initial enrollment at any postsecondary institution.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-919(a), is amended by deleting the following language in its entirety:

The student shall be eligible for the scholarship until the first of the following events:

- (1) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or
- (2) The sum of the number of years the student attended a postsecondary institution prior to the leave of absence and the number of years of attendance after the leave of absence equals five (5) years.

and by substituting instead the following:

(1) If the student received the scholarship as an entering freshman before the 2012-2013 academic year, then the student shall be eligible for the scholarship until the first of the following events occurs:

- (A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or
- (B) Five (5) years have passed from the date of the student's initial enrollment at any postsecondary institution.

(2) If the student receives the scholarship as an entering freshman during the 2012-2013 academic year or any academic year thereafter, then the student shall be eligible for the scholarship until the first of the following events occurs:

- (A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree;
- (B) The student has received a HOPE scholarship for eight (8) semesters, if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program requiring one hundred twenty (120) semester hours, or ten (10) semesters, if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program requiring more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours; or

(C) The sum of the number of years the student attended a postsecondary institution prior to the leave of absence and the number of years of attendance after the leave of absence equals four (4) years, if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program requiring one hundred twenty (120) semester hours, or five (5) years, if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program requiring more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.