

HOUSE BILL 72

By Lamar

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to student eligibility for the Tennessee HOPE scholarship.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Notwithstanding §§ 49-4-907(2) and 49-4-908(a)(4), a student who becomes pregnant during the four-month period immediately preceding the date on which the student completes high school in a Tennessee home school program, obtains a GED® or HiSET®, or graduates from high school, is eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship if the student is admitted to, and enrolled in, an eligible postsecondary institution no later than twenty-eight (28) months after completing high school in a Tennessee home school program, obtaining a GED® or HiSET®, or graduating from high school.

(b) To receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, a student eligible under this section must meet all other eligibility and continuation requirements for the scholarship.

SECTION 2. The Tennessee student assistance corporation shall promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. The rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students seeking to establish their initial eligibility for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship on or after that date.