

HOUSE BILL 471

By Pitts

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 51, Part 1 and 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 49-4-914, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the general assembly and any provision of law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, each year the amount of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship for first-time recipients of the scholarship attending eligible four-year postsecondary institutions shall be set in the general appropriations act. The amount of such award shall be determined in accordance with § 4-51-111. Unless TSAC makes a pro rata reduction of scholarship amounts under § 49-4-903(a), a Tennessee HOPE scholarship student attending an eligible four-year postsecondary institution in a semester subsequent to the semester in which the student initially received the Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall receive the greater of the amount awarded to first-time recipients of the Tennessee HOPE scholarship at eligible four-year postsecondary institutions in the semester in which the student is enrolled or the amount awarded to first-time recipients at eligible four-year postsecondary institutions in the semester during which the student first received a Tennessee HOPE scholarship.

(b) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the general assembly and any provision of law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, each year the amount of a

Tennessee HOPE scholarship for first-time recipients of the scholarship attending eligible two-year postsecondary institutions shall be set in the general appropriations act. The amount of the award shall be determined in accordance with § 4-51-111. Unless TSAC makes a pro rata reduction of scholarship amounts under § 49-4-903(a), a Tennessee HOPE scholarship student attending an eligible two-year postsecondary institution in a semester subsequent to the semester in which the student initially received the Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall receive the greater of the amount awarded to first-time recipients of the Tennessee HOPE scholarship at eligible two-year postsecondary institutions in the semester in which the student is enrolled or the amount awarded to first-time recipients at eligible two-year postsecondary institutions in the semester in which the student first received a Tennessee HOPE scholarship.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) to the contrary, the amount of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship awarded to eligible students attending an eligible two-year postsecondary institution that provides on-campus housing shall be determined according to subsection (a) as if such students were attending an eligible four-year institution.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-915(b), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b) The student shall receive the Tennessee HOPE scholarship award under § 49-4-914 and an ASPIRE award. Subject to the amounts appropriated by the general assembly and any provision of law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, each year the amount of an ASPIRE award for first-time recipients of the award shall be set in the general appropriations act. The amount of the award shall be determined in accordance with § 4-51-111. Unless TSAC makes a pro rata reduction of scholarship amounts

under § 49-4-903(a), an ASPIRE award recipient attending an eligible postsecondary institution in a semester subsequent to the semester in which the student initially received the ASPIRE award shall receive the greater of the amount awarded to first-time recipients of the ASPIRE award at eligible postsecondary institutions in the semester in which the student is enrolled or the amount awarded to first-time recipients at eligible postsecondary institutions in the semester during which the student was a first-time recipient.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-916(e), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(e) A student who meets the requirements for a general assembly merit scholarship shall receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship award under § 49-4-914 and a general assembly merit scholar supplemental award. Subject to the amounts appropriated by the general assembly and any provision of law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, each year the amount of a general assembly merit scholarship award for first-time recipients of the award shall be set in the general appropriations act. The amount of the award shall be determined in accordance with § 4-51-111. Unless TSAC makes a pro rata reduction of scholarship amounts under § 49-4-903(a), a general assembly merit scholar supplemental award recipient attending an eligible postsecondary institution in a semester subsequent to the semester in which the student initially received the general assembly merit scholar supplemental award shall receive the greater of the amount awarded to first-time recipients of the award at eligible postsecondary institutions in the semester in which the student is enrolled or the amount awarded to first-time recipients at eligible postsecondary institutions in the semester during which the student was a first-time recipient.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-920(d), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (1) and by adding the following language as a new subdivision (2):

(2) If a student who has received a Tennessee HOPE access grant qualifies for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship pursuant to subsection (e), then the amount of the Tennessee HOPE scholarship awarded to such student shall be the greater of the amount awarded to first-time recipients of the Tennessee HOPE scholarship at the eligible postsecondary institution in the semester in which the student is enrolled or the amount awarded to first-time recipients of the Tennessee HOPE scholarship at the eligible postsecondary institution in the semester during which the student was a first-time recipient of the Tennessee HOPE access grant.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-921(f), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(f) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the general assembly and any law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, each year the amount of a Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant for first-time recipients shall be set in the general appropriations act. The amount of the grant shall be determined in accordance with § 4-51-111. Unless TSAC makes a pro rata reduction of scholarship amounts under § 49-4-903(a), a Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant recipient receiving the grant in a semester subsequent to the semester in which the student initially received the grant shall receive the greater of the amount awarded to first-time recipients of the grant in the semester in which the student is enrolled or the amount awarded to first-time recipients in the semester during which the student was a first-time recipient.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-938(f), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following;

(f) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the general assembly and any law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, each year the amount of a helping heroes grant awarded to first-time recipients of a full grant for a semester shall be set in the general appropriations act. The amount of the award shall be determined in accordance with § 4-51-111. Unless TSAC makes a pro rata reduction of scholarship amounts under § 49-4-903(a), a helping heroes grant recipient receiving a full grant for any semester in a semester subsequent to the semester in which the student initially received the grant shall receive the greater of the amount awarded to first-time recipients of a full grant in the semester in which the student is enrolled or the amount awarded to first-time recipients of a full grant in the semester during which the student was a first-time recipient. A student awarded a helping heroes grant for successfully completing six (6) to eleven (11) semester hours shall receive one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) the amount of the full grant that the student would have received under this subsection if the student had completed twelve (12) or more semester hours.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-51-111(c)(3)(C), is amended by adding the following language after the last sentence in the subdivision:

For the Tennessee HOPE scholarship, Tennessee HOPE access grant, ASPIRE award, general assembly merit scholar supplemental award, Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant and helping heroes grant such recommendation shall establish the award for first-time recipients of such financial assistance in the next fiscal year. Awards for students who are not first-time recipients shall be determined in accordance with title 49, chapter 4, part 9.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students receiving financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for the 2011-2012 academic year and academic years thereafter.