HOUSE BILL 2008

By McDonald

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, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section;

§ 49-4-9___.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 49-4-905 or any other provision of this part to the contrary, a student shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship if the student:

- (1) Is not ineligible for a scholarship under § 49-4-904;
- (2) Qualifies for in-state tuition at the time of application under the rules of the board of regents or the University of Tennessee system as an unemancipated minor of divorced parents, one (1) of whom is domiciled in Tennessee;

(3)

- (A) Is admitted to and enrolls in an eligible postsecondary institution no later than sixteen (16) months after completion of high school or obtaining a GED; or
- (B) Meets the requirements of § 49-4-929, except for § 49-4-929(a)(2) as a transfer student;
 - (4) Meets the requirements of:

- (A) § 49-4-907(3), if the student graduated from a regionally accredited high school;
- (B) § 49-4-908(2)(A), if the student graduated from a high school that is not regionally accredited or completed high school in a home school; or
 - (C) § 49-4-908(2)(B), if the student received a GED; and
- (5) Applies for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any provision of title 49, chapter 4, part 9, to the contrary, any student who would have been eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under Section 1 of this act, if Section 1 had been in effect at the time of the student's initial enrollment in an eligible postsecondary institution or a regionally accredited postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee, may apply for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship for the 2009-2010 academic year. TSAC shall award the scholarship if the student meets all applicable continuing academic and nonacademic requirements for the scholarship at time of application.

Scholarships awarded under this section shall be subject to the limitations of § 49-4-913(a).

SECTION 3. No retroactive award of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall be made under this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for the 2009-2010 academic year and academic years thereafter.

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