SENATE BILL 299

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to education for incarcerated persons.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-944, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

Notwithstanding § 49-4-904(6) and subdivisions (c)(2), (c)(6), (d)(3), and (d)(5), an incarcerated person who is authorized to enroll in one (1) or more courses offered by an institution operated by the board of regents of the state university and community college system pursuant to § 41-21-238 or § 41-21-509 is eligible to receive a Tennessee reconnect grant for courses leading to completion of an eligible program of study.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students enrolling in courses leading to completion of an eligible program of study on or after that date.