

House Bill 185

By: Representatives Gaines of the 120th, Dempsey of the 13th, Hilton of the 48th, Wiedower of the 121st, Hatchett of the 155th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to provide for HOPE Inclusive
3 Postsecondary Education (IPSE) grants; to provide for definitions; to provide for student
4 eligibility; to provide for funding; to provide for policies, procedures, rules, and regulations,
5 including requirements for program authorization; to provide for related matters; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by adding a new paragraph to Code
11 Section 20-3-519, relating to definitions, as follows:

12 "(13.2) 'HOPE IPSE grant' means a Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally Inclusive
13 Postsecondary Education (IPSE) grant for education awarded in accordance with Code
14 Section 20-3-519.12."

SECTION 2.

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Said part is further amended by revising Code Section 20-3-519.12, which was previously reserved, as follows:

"20-3-519.12.

(a) As used in this Code section, the term:

(1) 'Authorized IPSE program' means an inclusive postsecondary education (IPSE) program for students with intellectual disabilities that has been authorized by the Georgia Student Finance Commission for the purposes of awarding HOPE IPSE grants to eligible students.

(2) 'Qualified postsecondary institution' means an eligible postsecondary institution that offers an authorized IPSE program.

(b) To be eligible for a HOPE IPSE grant, a student shall:

(1) Meet the residency requirements provided for in Code Section 20-3-519.1; and

(2) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted and enrolled in an authorized IPSE program at a qualified postsecondary institution.

(c) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the General Assembly and provisions relating to the Lottery for Education Account provided for in Code Section 50-27-13, each eligible student shall receive a HOPE IPSE grant in an amount equal to the HOPE award amount.

(d) The Georgia Student Finance Commission, in collaboration with the University System of Georgia, the Technical College System of Georgia, and the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities, shall define such terms and conditions and establish such policies, procedures, rules, and regulations as are reasonable and necessary for the implementation of this Code section, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, requirements that each authorized IPSE program shall:

(1) Serve students with intellectual disabilities;

- 40 (2) Require that, in at least 50 percent of the courses in which a participating student is
41 enrolled as part of the authorized IPSE program, such student's non-disabled peers shall
42 also be enrolled.
- 43 (3) Provide individual supports and services for the academic and social inclusion of
44 students with intellectual disabilities in academic courses, extracurricular activities, and
45 other aspects of the qualified postsecondary institution's regular postsecondary program;
- 46 (4) With respect to students with intellectual disabilities participating in the authorized
47 IPSE program, provide a focus on:
- 48 (A) Academic enrichment;
49 (B) Socialization;
50 (C) Independent living skills, including self-advocacy skills; and
51 (D) Integrated work experiences and career skills that lead to gainful employment;
- 52 (5) Integrate person centered planning in the development of the course of study for each
53 student with an intellectual disability participating in the authorized IPSE program;
- 54 (6) Partner with one or more local educational agencies to support students with
55 intellectual disabilities participating in the authorized IPSE program who are still eligible
56 for special education and related services under the federal Individuals with Disabilities
57 Education Act, including the use of funds available under part B of such Act to support
58 the participation of such students in the authorized IPSE program;
- 59 (7) Create and offer a meaningful credential for students with intellectual disabilities
60 upon the completion of the authorized IPSE program; and
- 61 (8) Participate with the Georgia Student Finance Commission, the University System of
62 Georgia, the Technical College System of Georgia, and the Georgia Council on
63 Developmental Disabilities in the evaluation of the authorized IPSE program Reserved."

64 **SECTION 3.**

65 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.