

House Bill 185 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

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 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to Georgia Student Finance Authority, so as to provide for 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 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to Georgia Student Finance Authority, is amended by adding a new subpart to read
11 as follows:

12 "Subpart 12

13 20-3-494.

14 (a) As used in this subpart, the term:

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

18 (2) 'IPSE grant' means an inclusive postsecondary education (IPSE) grant for education
19 awarded in accordance with this subpart.

20 (3) 'Qualified postsecondary institution' means a unit of the University System of
21 Georgia or a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia that offers an authorized
22 IPSE program.

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

24 (1) Meet the requirements provided for in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and
25 subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.1; and

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

28 (c) Subject to the amount of funds appropriated by the General Assembly and other
29 available funding, eligible students enrolled in an authorized IPSE program on or before
30 July 1, 2028, shall receive an IPSE grant in an amount equal to the current academic year
31 standard undergraduate tuition amount at each such student's respective qualified
32 postsecondary institution.

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

- 39 (1) Serve students with intellectual disabilities;
40 (2) Require that a participating student be enrolled in courses with non-disabled peers
41 for at least 50 percent of the courses in which such participating student is enrolled as part
42 of an authorized IPSE program;
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) Create and offer a meaningful credential for students with intellectual disabilities
55 upon the completion of the authorized IPSE program; and
56 (7) Participate with the Georgia Student Finance Authority, the University System of
57 Georgia, the Technical College System of Georgia, and the Georgia Council on
58 Developmental Disabilities in the evaluation of the authorized IPSE program."

59 **SECTION 2.**

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