

House Bill 771

By: Representatives Scott of the 76th, Williams of the 168th, Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Glanton of the 75th, and Hutchinson of the 107th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to the University System of Georgia, so as to provide that members of
3 the armed forces of the United States who are abiding in this state incident to active military
4 duty and their spouses and dependents qualify for in-state tuition; to provide for a
5 continuation of in-state tuition under certain circumstances; to provide for related matters;
6 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to the University System of Georgia, is amended in Code Section 20-3-66, relating
11 to determination of in-state resident status of students for tuition or fees, by adding a new
12 subsection to read as follows:

13 "(e)(1) Any active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, which shall
14 include the regular, reserve, or National Guard component of the United States armed
15 forces and the United States Coast Guard, shall be classified as in-state for tuition
16 purposes while such member of the armed forces is abiding in this state incident to active
17 military duty in this state. In the event an active duty member is reassigned outside of
18 Georgia or retires, the member shall continue to be eligible for in-state tuition so long as
19 such member is continuously enrolled in the degree or other program in which he or she
20 was enrolled at the time of reassignment or retirement. In the event an active duty
21 member receives an honorable discharge from military service, the member shall
22 continue to be eligible for in-state tuition so long as such member establishes residency
23 in Georgia within 30 days after the discharge and is continuously enrolled in the degree
24 or other program in which he or she was enrolled at the time of discharge.

25 (2) Any dependent student or spouse of a member of the armed forces of the United
26 States, which shall include the regular, reserve, or National Guard component of the

27 United States armed forces and the United States Coast Guard, who is abiding in this state
28 incident to active military duty while sharing the abode of that member shall be classified
29 as in-state for tuition purposes. In the event an active duty member is reassigned outside
30 of Georgia or retires, such dependent student or spouse shall continue to be eligible for
31 in-state tuition so long as such dependent student or spouse is continuously enrolled in
32 the degree or other program in which he or she was enrolled at the time of the member's
33 reassignment or retirement. In the event an active duty member receives an honorable
34 discharge from military service, such dependent student or spouse shall continue to be
35 eligible for in-state tuition so long as such dependent student or spouse establishes
36 residency in Georgia within 30 days after the discharge and is continuously enrolled in
37 the degree or other program in which he or she was enrolled at the time of the member's
38 discharge.
39 (3) The student applying for the benefit of this subsection shall have the burden of
40 proving eligibility for such benefit."

41 **SECTION 2.**

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