

Senate Bill 137

By: Senators Burns of the 23rd, Strickland of the 17th, Williams of the 25th, Anavitarte of the 31st and Orrock of the 36th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-411 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 definitions regarding tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities, so as to  
3 revise the definition of approved school; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-3-411 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions  
8 regarding tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities, is amended by  
9 revising division (2)(B)(i) as follows:

10 "(B)(i) A qualified proprietary institution of higher education located in this state  
11 which is a baccalaureate degree-granting institution of higher education; which is  
12 accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; which is not a Bible  
13 school or college (or, at the graduate level, a school or college of theology or  
14 divinity); which admits as regular students only persons who have a high school  
15 diploma, a state approved high school equivalency (HSE) diploma, or a degree from  
16 an accredited postsecondary institution; whose students are eligible to participate in  
17 the federal Pell Grant program; which has been reviewed and approved for operation

18 and for receipt of tuition equalization grant funds by the Georgia Nonpublic  
19 Postsecondary Education Commission; which is domiciled and incorporated in the  
20 State of Georgia; which has been ~~in existence in the State of Georgia for at least ten~~  
21 ~~years~~ located in this state since on or before January 1, 2021; and which met all of the  
22 requirements of this subparagraph by January 1, ~~2011~~ 2021; provided, however, that  
23 the criteria for approval for receipt of tuition equalization grant funds shall include but  
24 not be limited to areas of course study; quality of academic instruction; student  
25 placement rate; research and library ~~sources~~; resources; faculty; support staff;  
26 financial resources; ~~physical plant facilities~~ resources; instructional campuses,  
27 facilities, or other physical sites; and support and equipment resources."

28 **SECTION 2.**

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