

HOUSE BILL 2049

By Shaw

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

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) If the department of education administers an education scholarship program that grants scholarships to a student in any of the grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) for the primary purpose of paying for the expenses associated with the student attending a private school, then the department shall ensure that an amount equivalent to the scholarship amount received by the student through such a program is disbursed to the LEA in which the student was enrolled before participating in a scholarship program, if the student:

(1) Was enrolled in and attended a school in the LEA for the one (1) full school year immediately preceding the school year in which the student began participating in the scholarship program; and

(2) Generated TISA funds for the LEA in which the student was enrolled in the year immediately preceding the school year in which the student began participating in the scholarship program.

(b) The department shall disburse the amount required in subsection (a) to the respective LEA each year in which the student who generated the initial disbursement participates in a scholarship program. If a student who generates a disbursement under this section withdraws or is suspended from participating in a scholarship program re-

enrolls in the respective LEA or enrolls in another LEA or public charter school, then disbursements to the student's former LEA terminate. Any funds that are improperly disbursed to an LEA pursuant to this section must be returned to the department.

(c) This section does not apply to the education savings account pilot program created in part 26 of this chapter until the first fiscal year immediately following the third fiscal year in which the program enrolled participating students pursuant to § 49-6-2605.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.