

SENATE BILL 6

By Summerville

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to eligibility for Tennessee HOPE scholarships, Tennessee HOPE access grants and Tennessee HOPE scholarships for nontraditional students.

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

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Know Your Nation Act".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-905, is amended by adding the following language as new subsection (c):

(c)

(1) To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, Tennessee HOPE access grant or Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students, a student shall take and pass both the English test and the civics test required by the United States citizenship and immigration service for immigrants to become naturalized citizens.

(2) If the United States citizenship and immigration service's tests cannot be made available for such use, then THEC, with the assistance of the board of regents and the University of Tennessee system as requested by THEC, shall devise and implement tests that are substantially similar to the citizenship and immigration service's English and civics tests for use in lieu of the federal tests.

(3) THEC shall adopt rules and regulations concerning the administration of such tests. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for the 2014-2015 academic year and academic years thereafter.