

1 HB424  
2 208974-4  
3 By Representative Faulkner  
4 RFD: Ways and Means Education  
5 First Read: 23-FEB-21

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ENROLLED, An Act,

Relating to the Alabama Student Grant Program, to amend Section 16-33A-3, Code of Alabama 1975, to increase the cap on the grant amount from \$1,200 to \$3,000 per academic year, dependent on legislative appropriations; and to provide further for the duties of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. ~~Section 16-33A-3~~ Sections 16-33A-3 and 16-33A-5 of the Code of Alabama 1975, ~~is~~ are amended to read as follows:

"§16-33A-3.

"There is ~~hereby~~ granted to each eligible student attending an approved institution the sum of ~~\$1,200.00~~ three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per academic year, which sum shall be distributed to ~~such~~ the institution on behalf of and to the credit of ~~such~~ the student in accordance with rules ~~and regulations to be promulgated~~ adopted by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. ~~Such grants shall be effective for qualified students enrolled in academic programs commencing after August 1, 1989."~~

"16-33A-5.

"(a) Basic powers. The ACHE is authorized and empowered to promulgate such may adopt rules, regulations,

1 policies, and procedures as may be reasonable and proper in  
2 order to carry out the provisions and purposes of this  
3 chapter. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the  
4 ACHE is authorized and empowered to do all of the following:

5 "(1) ~~To make~~ Adopt reasonable rules, regulations and  
6 determinations concerning the qualification of applicants as  
7 Alabama residents or as eligible students and the  
8 qualification of institutions as approved institutions as  
9 defined in this chapter.

10 "(2) ~~To alter~~ Alter or amend the definition of  
11 "eligible student" in order to enable the program to meet the  
12 requirements of the state or federal constitutions or any  
13 applicable statute, administrative regulation rule, or  
14 judicial decision, if such the alteration is deemed both  
15 necessary and reasonable.

16 "(3) ~~To determine~~ Determine the extent to which  
17 applicants, including part-time students, shall be eligible  
18 for grants under this chapter.

19 "(4) ~~To make~~ Adopt reasonable rules, regulations and  
20 determinations concerning the method of payment of grants to  
21 approved institutions on behalf of and to the credit of  
22 eligible students.

23 "(5) ~~To request~~ Request submission of and obtain all  
24 information reasonably needed for the effective administration

1 of the program from individual applicants for grants or from  
2 institutions which enroll eligible students; ~~and.~~

3 "(6) ~~To accept~~ Accept grants and contributions,  
4 which are intended to provide financial assistance to Alabama  
5 students, and to use ~~such~~ those grants and contributions for  
6 the purpose or purposes for which the same are made.

7 "(b) Basic duties. ~~The~~ ACHE shall be responsible for  
8 the effective implementation and administration of the  
9 program. ~~The~~ ACHE shall ~~issue~~ do all of the following:

10 "(1) Issue public information, design all forms  
11 needed for the effective administration of the program,  
12 process all applications, certifications of eligibility,  
13 approvals, awards, renewals, revocations, and disbursements of  
14 grants, ensure against the utilization of grants for religious  
15 or sectarian purposes as provided in Section 16-33A-7 and  
16 ~~promulgate~~ adopt and implement all rules, ~~regulations,~~  
17 policies, and procedures reasonably needed for the effective  
18 administration of the program.

19 "(2) Provide information including, but not limited  
20 to, brochures, pamphlets, and signage explaining the program  
21 and the process for applying for grants under the program, to  
22 high school guidance counselors and student counselors  
23 employed by approved institutions for publication and  
24 distribution to students."

1                   Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
2 first day of the third month following its passage and  
3 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in  
and was passed by the House 13-APR-21.

Jeff Woodard  
Clerk

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|--------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Senate | <hr/> 29-APR-21 <hr/> | Amended and Passed            |
| House  | <hr/> 29-APR-21 <hr/> | Concurred in Senate Amendment |