

HOUSE BILL 1152

By Ferguson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-4-9__.

(a) A student who meets all requirements for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under § 49-4-907 or § 49-4-908 as an entering freshman except that the student does not meet the applicable academic requirements for initial eligibility for the scholarship, but who without financial assistance from lottery proceeds is admitted to and enrolls in an eligible postsecondary institution no later than sixteen (16) months after completing high school or obtaining a GED, shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of twelve (12) semester hours, if the student achieves a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 and the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements for the scholarship. If such student does not achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of twelve (12) semester hours, but the student continues to be enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution and meets the academic requirements of either § 49-4-911(a)(1) or § 49-1-911(a)(2) at the end of any semester at which continuing eligibility for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship would be evaluated under § 49-4-911(a)(1) or § 49-4-911(a)(2), then the student shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship at the

end of such semester; provided, that the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements for the scholarship.

(b) No retroactive award of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall be made under this section.

SECTION 2. 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 2009-2010 academic year and academic years thereafter.