

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 516 - HB 586

March 12, 2019

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Prohibits an eligible postsecondary institution from denying a student residential housing solely because of the student's award of a Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (005780): Deletes and rewrites all language after the enacting clause such that the only substantive change is to: (1) specify that an eligible postsecondary institution does not have to provide additional accommodations beyond the federal requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act to those students that receive the Tennessee STEP UP scholarship; (2) authorize each eligible postsecondary institution that offers the Tennessee STEP UP scholarship to create a process for a student receiving the scholarship to apply for residential housing on the campus of, or in affiliation with, the eligible postsecondary institution; and (3) changes the effective date from upon becoming law to January 1, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship is a program designed to assist students with intellectual disabilities who have completed high school and enrolled in a two-year individualized program at an eligible postsecondary institution.
- The STEP UP Scholarship is currently offered at the University of Tennessee and the University of Memphis.
- Currently the STEP UP Scholarship is a non-residential program.
- According to the U.S. Department of Education website, *if your postsecondary school provides housing to nondisabled students, it must provide comparable, convenient, and accessible housing to students with disabilities at the same cost.*

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- Nothing in this legislation requires universities to make any additional accommodations than what is already required under current federal and state law, including the Fair Housing Act § 42 U.S.C Chapter 45.
- Specifying that recipients of the STEP UP Scholarship cannot be denied housing *solely* because the student has been awarded this scholarship will not significantly impact the universities.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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