WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1979

ENROLLED
Committee Substitute for
HOUSE BILL No. 863

(By Mr. Speaker, Mr. Lee)

Passed March 10, 1979
In Effect July 1, 1979
AN ACT to amend and reenact section six, article twenty-two-b, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to authorizing the board of regents to enter into reciprocal agreements with other states providing financial assistance to their residents attending institutions of higher learning in West Virginia.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section six, article twenty-two-b, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 22B. STATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

§18-22B-6. Recipients, awards and distribution of awards of scholarships; authority of board of regents to enter into reciprocal agreements with other states concerning scholarships.

1 The scholarship recipient shall be free to attend any approved institution of higher education in this state. The institution is not required to accept the scholarship recipient for
enrollment, but is free to exact compliance with its own ad-
mission requirements, standards and policies.

Scholarship grants shall be made to undergraduate students
only.

Each scholarship is renewable until the course of study is
completed, but not to exceed an additional three academic
years beyond the first year of the award. These may not
necessarily be consecutive years and the scholarship will be
terminated if the student receives his degree in a shorter period
of time. Qualifications for renewal will include maintaining
satisfactory academic standing, making normal progress to-
ward completion of the course of study and continued eligi-
bility, as determined by the commission.

Scholarship awards shall be made without regard to the
applicant's race, creed, color, sex, national origin or ancestry;
and in making scholarship awards, the commission shall treat
all approved institutions of higher education in a fair and
equitable manner. The commission from time to time shall
identify areas of professional, vocational and technical exper-
tise that are, or will be, of critical need in this state and, to
the extent feasible, may direct scholarship grants to students
that are pursuing instruction in those areas.

The board of regents may enter into reciprocal agreements
with state scholarship and grant program agencies in other
states which provide financial assistance to their residents at-
tending institutions of higher education located in West Vir-
ginia. In connection therewith, the board of regents may
authorize residents of West Virginia to use financial assistance
under this article to attend institutions of higher education in
such other states. Residents of West Virginia requesting fi-
nancial assistance to attend institutions of higher education
located in any such states must meet all of the eligibility stand-
ards set forth in section five of this article.

Scholarship awards shall be limited to the lesser of the pay-
ment of tuition and those related compulsory fees charged by
an institution to all West Virginia undergraduate students, or
an amount equal to the average state general fund support for
each full-time equivalent student in the state four-year colleges for the preceding academic year as calculated by the board of regents.

Payments of scholarships shall be made directly to the institution.

In the event that a scholarship recipient transfers from one approved institution of higher education to another, his scholarship shall be transferable only with the approval of the commission.

Should the recipient terminate his enrollment for any reason during the academic year, the unused portion of the scholarship shall be returned to the commission by the institution according to the institution's own policy for issuing refunds.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

James L. Davis  
Chairman Senate Committee

Clarence L. Chestnutt  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House.

Takes effect July 1, 1979.

J. E. Stowers Jr.  
Clerk of the Senate

A. Blankenship  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

W. E. B. Smith Jr.  
President of the Senate

Clyde A. Reed Jr.  
Speaker House of Delegates

The within ________________________ this the __________ day of ____________, 1979.

Johnny Rodgers Jr.  
Governor

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