By: Representative Cameron

To: Universities and Colleges; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 243

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE HELPING OUTSTANDING PUPILS EDUCATIONALLY (HOPE) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR POSTSECONDARY 3 STUDENTS IN MISSISSIPPI; TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THE ACT; TO DESCRIBE CERTAIN STUDENTS WHO ARE INELIGIBLE FOR HOPE SCHOLARSHIPS; TO PRESCRIBE THE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY 6 REQUIREMENTS FOR FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS AND SENIORS AT 7 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES IN MISSISSIPPI; TO ESTABLISH A HOPE GED VOUCHER PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS OBTAINING THEIR GED; TO ESTABLISH THE 8 9 HOPE TEACHER'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS AGREEING TO TEACH 10 11 IN A CRITICAL SHORTAGE FIELD; TO DESCRIBE THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE INELIGIBLE FOR THE HOPE TEACHER'S SCHOLARSHIP; TO SPECIFY THAT 12 HOPE SCHOLARSHIPS MAY BE APPLIED ONLY TO TUITION AND FEES NOT 13 COVERED BY A FEDERAL GRANT; TO AUTHORIZE THE MISSISSIPPI 14 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD TO PROMULGATE 15 RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE HOPE PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED 16 17 PURPOSES.

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 19 SECTION 1. The following words and phrases shall have the
- 20 meanings ascribed in this section unless the context clearly
- 21 indicates otherwise:
- 22 (a) "Academic year" means a period of time, typically
- 23 nine (9) months, in which a full-time student is expected to
- 24 complete the equivalent of at least two (2) semesters academic
- 25 work.
- 26 (b) "Advanced degree" means a master's degree,
- 27 specialist's degree or doctorate in education conferred by an
- 28 approved institution of higher learning upon completion of a
- 29 unified program of study at the graduate level.
- 30 (c) "Approved teacher education program" means a
- 31 program offered by a public or private institution of higher
- 32 learning, which program has been approved by the Commission on
- 33 Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure
- 34 and Development.

- 35 (d) "Certificate" or "diploma" means a credential,
- 36 other than a degree, indicating satisfactory completion of
- 37 training in a program of study offered by a eligible public
- 38 institution of higher learning.
- (e) "Critical shortage field" means an area of study or
- 40 an area of specialized expertise for which a shortage of qualified
- 41 teachers or educators exists in Mississippi, designated as such by
- 42 the State Board of Education.
- (f) "Eligible high school" means a public or private
- 44 secondary school which is:
- 45 (i) Located in Mississippi and is fully
- 46 accredited; or
- 47 (ii) Located in another state and is accredited by
- 48 one (1) of the following regional agencies:
- 1. The Southern Association of Colleges and
- 50 Schools;
- 51 2. The New England Association of Schools and
- 52 Colleges;
- 3. The Middle States Association of Colleges
- 54 and Schools;
- 55 4. The North Central Association of Colleges
- 56 and Schools;
- 57 5. The Northwestern Association of Schools
- 58 and Colleges; or
- 59 6. The Western Association of Schools and
- 60 Colleges.
- (g) "Eligible institution of higher learning" means a
- 62 school which is:
- (i) An institution under the supervision of the
- 64 Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning;
- (ii) A community or junior college under the State
- 66 Board for Community and Junior Colleges;

- 67 (iii) A private institution of higher learning in
- 68 Mississippi accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and
- 69 Schools and approved by the Mississippi Commission on College
- 70 Accreditation.
- 71 (h) "Freshman student" means a student at an
- 72 institution of higher learning or a community or junior college
- 73 who has attempted less than thirty-one (31) semester hours.
- 74 (i) "Full-time student" means a student attending an
- 75 institution of higher learning or a community or junior college
- 76 and enrolled for the equivalent of at least twelve (12) semester
- 77 hours.
- 78 (j) "Grade point average" means the numbered grade
- 79 average calculated using a 4.0 scale.
- 80 (k) "HOPE scholarship" means a Helping Outstanding
- 81 Pupils Educationally scholarship for education awarded in
- 82 accordance with Section 3 or 4 of this act.
- (1) "HOPE teacher's scholarship" means a Helping
- 84 Outstanding Pupils Educationally scholarship for education awarded
- 85 in accordance with Section 6 of this act.
- 86 (m) "HOPE GED voucher" means a Helping Outstanding
- 87 Pupils Educationally general educational development (GED)
- 88 equivalency diploma voucher for postsecondary education awarded in
- 89 accordance with Section 5 of this act.
- 90 (n) "Junior student" means a student at an institution
- 91 of higher learning who has attempted at least sixty-one (61)
- 92 semester hours but less than ninety-one (91) semester hours.
- 93 (o) "Mandatory fees" means fees that are charged by a
- 94 postsecondary institution to every student enrolled in that
- 95 institution, regardless of the student's program of study.
- 96 (p) "Matriculated status" means being recognized as a
- 97 student in a defined program of study leading to a degree, diploma
- 98 or certificate at an institution of higher learning or a community
- 99 or junior college.

- (q) "Semester hours" includes each semester hour

 attempted, whether remedial or for credit toward a degree, but

 does not include any semester hour attempted before graduating

 from high school or earning a general educational development

 (GED) equivalency diploma.
- 105 (r) "Senior student" means a student at an institution
 106 of higher learning who has attempted at least ninety-one (91)
 107 semester hours but less than one hundred twenty-eight (128)
 108 semester hours.
- 109 (s) "Sophomore student" means a student at an

 110 institution of higher learning or a community or junior college

 111 who has attempted at least thirty-one (31) semester hours but less

 112 than sixty-one (61) semester hours.
- 113 (t) "Title IV" means Title IV of the Higher Education 114 Act of 1965, as amended, 20 USCS Section 1070 et seq.
- 115 <u>SECTION 2.</u> A student is ineligible for any scholarship 116 described in this act if the student:
- 117 (a) Is not a United States citizen or a permanent

 118 resident alien who meets the definition of an eligible noncitizen

 119 under federal Title IV requirements;
- (b) Has not complied with United States Selective

 Service System requirements for registration, if such requirements

 are applicable to the student;
- (c) Is in default on a federal Title IV educational loan or a State of Mississippi educational loan, except that a student who otherwise is eligible and has repaid fully the defaulted loan is eligible to obtain a scholarship for future academic terms but not retroactively;
- (d) Owes a refund on a federal Title IV student
 financial aid program or a Mississippi student financial aid
 program, except that a student who otherwise is eligible and has
 paid fully the refund owed is eligible to obtain a scholarship for
 future academic terms but not retroactively;

133	(e) Has been convicted of a felony offense involving
134	marijuana or a controlled substance;
135	(f) Is incarcerated; or
136	(g) Does not meet each qualification listed in the
137	section relating to the relevant scholarship and applicable to the
138	student.
139	SECTION 3. (1) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, an
140	entering freshman student seeking an associate or baccalaureate
141	degree at an eligible state institution of higher learning or
142	state community or junior college must:
143	(a) Meet residency requirements by meeting the
144	requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi
145	as established by the program regulations promulgated by the
146	Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board,
147	which shall be based upon the in-state tuition law or policy of
148	the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning;
149	(b) Meet achievement standards by:
150	(i) Having graduated from an eligible high school
151	while meeting the curriculum requirements of his or her program of
152	study; or
153	(ii) In the case of a student who is qualified
154	otherwise but:
155	1. Did not graduate from high school or
156	complete a home study program, having received the general
157	educational development (GED) equivalency diploma;
158	2. Completed a home study program in lieu of
159	graduating from an eligible high school, earning a cumulative
160	grade point average of at least 3.0 at an eligible public
161	institution of higher learning or a community or junior college at
162	the end of the semester in which the student has attempted thirty
163	(30) semester hours, provided that such student shall be eligible
164	to receive a retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's
165	freshman year to be paid at the end of the freshman year; or

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166	3. Graduated from a high school which is not
167	an eligible high school, earning a cumulative grade point average
168	of at least 3.0 at an eligible public institution of higher
169	learning or a community or junior college at the end of the
170	semester in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester
171	hours, provided that such student shall be eligible to receive a
172	retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's freshman year to
173	be paid at the end of the freshman year; and
174	(c) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted.

- (c) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted,
 enrolled and classified as an undergraduate student in a
 matriculated status.
- 177 (2) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a sophomore
 178 student seeking an associate or baccalaureate degree at an
 179 eligible state institution of higher learning or a state community
 180 or junior college must:
 - (a) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board, which shall be based upon the in-state tuition law or policy of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning;
- 187 (b) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following
 188 criteria:
- (i) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at an institution of higher learning or a community or junior college at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours; and
- (ii) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in 194 a course of study in accordance with the standards and practices 195 used for federal Title IV programs by the institution of higher 196 learning or a community or junior college in which the student is 197 enrolled; and

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198	(c) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted,
199	enrolled and classified as an undergraduate student in a
200	matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible
201	student who is classified as a professional level student rather
202	than an undergraduate student, being accepted into the
203	professional level program of study before receiving a
204	baccalaureate degree.

- 205 (3) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a junior student 206 seeking a baccalaureate degree at a public institution of higher 207 learning must:
- 208 (a) Meet residency requirements by meeting the
 209 requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi
 210 as established by the program regulations promulgated by the
 211 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board,
 212 which shall be based upon the in-state tuition law or policy of
 213 the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning;
- (b) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following criteria:
- (i) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at
 least 3.0 at an institution of higher learning or community or
 junior college at the end of the semester in which the student has
 attempted sixty (60) semester hours; and
- (ii) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution of higher learning or community or junior college in which the student is enrolled; and
- (c) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted,
 enrolled and classified as an undergraduate student in a
 matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible
 student who is classified as a professional level student rather
 than an undergraduate student, being accepted into the

- 230 professional level program of study before receiving a
- 231 baccalaureate degree.
- 232 (4) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a senior student
- 233 seeking a baccalaureate degree at a public institution of higher
- 234 learning must:
- 235 (a) Meet residency requirements by meeting the
- 236 requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi
- 237 as established by the program regulations promulgated by the
- 238 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board,
- 239 which shall be based upon the in-state tuition policy or law of
- 240 the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning;
- 241 (b) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following
- 242 criteria:
- 243 (i) Meeting all achievement standards for HOPE
- 244 eligibility in his or her junior year;
- 245 (ii) Earning a cumulative grade point average of
- 246 at least 3.0 at an institution of higher learning at the end of
- 247 the semester in which the student has attempted ninety (90)
- 248 semester hours; and
- 249 (iii) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress
- 250 in a course of study in accordance with the standards and
- 251 practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution of
- 252 higher learning in which the student is enrolled; and
- (c) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted,
- 254 enrolled and classified as an undergraduate student in a
- 255 matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible
- 256 student who is classified as a professional level student rather
- 257 than an undergraduate student, being accepted into the
- 258 professional level program of study before receiving a
- 259 baccalaureate degree.
- 260 (5) A student who fails to maintain a cumulative grade point
- 261 average of at least 3.0 at the end of the semester in which the
- 262 student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours may attend the

- 263 next thirty (30) semester hours without a HOPE scholarship. An
- 264 otherwise eligible student who regains a cumulative grade point
- 265 average of at least 3.0 at the end of the semester in which the
- 266 student has attempted sixty (60) semester hours may requalify for
- 267 a HOPE scholarship.
- 268 (6) For students eligible for a HOPE scholarship under this
- 269 section, no minimum number of hours of enrollment is required.
- 270 (7) (a) Except as set out in paragraph (b) of this section,
- 271 a student may receive the HOPE scholarship until the first of
- 272 these events:
- 273 (i) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree;
- 274 or
- 275 (ii) The student has attempted at any institution
- 276 of higher learning a total of one hundred twenty-seven (127)
- 277 semester hours.
- (b) A student enrolled in an undergraduate degree
- 279 program designed to be more than one hundred twenty-seven (127)
- 280 semester hours in length is eligible to receive the HOPE
- 281 scholarship for the lessor of:
- 282 (i) A total of one hundred fifty (150) attempted
- 283 semester hours; or
- 284 (ii) The number of hours required for graduation
- 285 if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least
- 286 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted one hundred
- 287 twenty-seven (127) semester hours.
- 288 (8) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the Legislature,
- 289 a HOPE scholarship awarded under this section shall include
- 290 tuition, approved mandatory fees, and a book allowance not to
- 291 exceed One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per semester.
- SECTION 4. (1) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, an
- 293 entering freshman student seeking an associate or baccalaureate
- 294 degree at an eligible private institution of higher learning or
- 295 community or junior college must:

296	(a) Meet residency requirement by meeting the
297	requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi
298	as established by the program regulations promulgated by the
299	Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board;
300	(b) Meet achievement standards by:
301	(i) Having graduated from an eligible high school
302	while meeting the curriculum requirements of his or her program of
303	study; or
304	(ii) In the case of a student who is qualified
305	otherwise but:
306	1. Did not graduate from high school or
307	complete a home study program, having received the general
308	educational development (GED) equivalency diploma;
309	2. Completed a home study program in lieu of
310	graduating from an eligible high school, earning a cumulative
311	grade point average of at least 3.0 at an eligible public
312	institution of higher learning or a community or junior college at
313	the end of the semester in which the student has attempted thirty
314	(30) semester hours, provided that such student shall be eligible
315	to receive a retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's
316	freshman year to be paid at the end of the freshman year; or
317	3. Graduated from a high school which is not
318	an eligible high school, earning a cumulative grade point average
319	of at least 3.0 at an eligible public institution of higher
320	learning or community or junior college at the end of the semester
321	in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours,
322	provided that such student shall be eligible to receive a
323	retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's freshman year to
324	be paid at the end of the freshman year; and
325	(c) Meet enrollment standards by:
326	(i) Being admitted, enrolled and classified as an
327	undergraduate student in a matriculated status; and

328		(ii)	Bein	g regi	stered	for	and	atter	nding	class	ses a	as
329	a full-time s	student	for f	ourtee	en (14)	days	or	more	after	the	las	t
330	day of the in	nstituti	on's	drop a	and add	peri	od.					

- 331 (2) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a sophomore 332 student seeking an associate or baccalaureate degree at an 333 eligible private institution of higher learning or community or 334 junior college must:
- 335 (a) Meet residency requirements by meeting the
 336 requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi
 337 as established by the program regulations promulgated by the
 338 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board;
- 339 (b) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following 340 criteria:
- (i) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at an institution of higher learning or community or junior college at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours; and
- (ii) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution of higher learning or community or junior college in which the student is enrolled; and
- 350 (c) Meet enrollment standards by:
- (i) Being admitted, enrolled and classified as an undergraduate student in a matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible student who is classified as a professional level student rather than an undergraduate student, being accepted into the professional level program of study before receiving a baccalaureate degree; and
- (ii) Being registered for and attending classes as a full-time student for fourteen (14) days or more after the last day of the institution's drop and add period.

360	(3)	To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a junior student
361	seeking a	baccalaureate degree at an eligible private institution
362	of higher	learning must:

- 363 (a) Meet residency requirements by meeting the
 364 requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi
 365 as established by the program regulations promulgated by the
 366 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board;
- 367 (b) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following 368 criteria:
- (i) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at
 least 3.0 at a institution of higher learning or a community or
 junior college at the end of the semester in which the student has
 attempted sixty (60) semester hours; and
- (ii) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution of higher learning in which the student is enrolled; and
- 377 (c) Meet enrollment standards by:
- (i) Being admitted, enrolled and classified as an undergraduate student in a matriculated status or provided that in the case of an otherwise eligible student who is classified as a professional level student rather than an undergraduate student, have been accepted into the professional level program of study before receiving a baccalaureate degree; and
- (ii) Being registered for and attending classes as a full-time student for fourteen (14) days or more after the last day of the institution's drop and add period.
- 387 (4) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a senior student 388 seeking a baccalaureate degree at an eligible private institution 389 of higher learning must:
- 390 (a) Meet residency requirements by meeting the 391 requirements to be classified as a legal resident of Mississippi

392	as	established	by	the	program	regulations	promulgated	by	the
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- 393 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board;
- 394 (b) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following
- 395 criteria:
- 396 (i) Having met all achievement standards for HOPE
- 397 eligibility in his or her junior year;
- 398 (ii) Earning a cumulative grade point average of
- 399 at least 3.0 at an institution of higher learning at the end of
- 400 the semester in which the student has attempted ninety (90)
- 401 semester hours; and
- 402 (iii) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress
- 403 in a course of study in accordance with the standards and
- 404 practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution of
- 405 higher learning in which the student is enrolled; and
- 406 (c) Meet enrollment standards by:
- 407 (i) Being admitted, enrolled and classified as an
- 408 undergraduate student in a matriculated status or, in the case of
- 409 an otherwise eligible student who is classified as a professional
- 410 level student rather than an undergraduate student, being accepted
- 411 into the professional level program of study before receiving a
- 412 baccalaureate degree; and
- 413 (ii) Being registered for and attending classes as
- 414 a full-time student for fourteen (14) days or more after the last
- 415 day of the institution's drop and add period.
- 416 (5) An otherwise eliqible student who fails to maintain a
- 417 cumulative grade point of at least 3.0 at the end of the semester
- 418 in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours may
- 419 attend the next thirty (30) semester hours without a HOPE
- 420 scholarship. A student who regains a cumulative grade point
- 421 average of at least 3.0 at end of the semester in which the
- 422 student has attempted sixty (60) semester hours may requalify for
- 423 a HOPE scholarship.

- 424 (6) (a) Except as set out in paragraph (b) of this
- 425 subsection, a student may receive a HOPE scholarship until the
- 426 first of these events:
- (i) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree;
- 428 or
- 429 (ii) The student has attempted at any institution
- 430 of higher learning a total of one hundred twenty-seven (127)
- 431 semester hours.
- (b) A student enrolled in an undergraduate degree
- 433 program designed to be more than one hundred twenty-seven (127)
- 434 semester hours in length is eligible to receive a HOPE scholarship
- 435 for the lessor of:
- 436 (i) A total of one hundred fifty (150) attempted
- 437 semester hours; or
- 438 (ii) The number of hours required for graduation
- 439 if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least
- 440 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted one hundred
- 441 twenty-seven (127) semester hours.
- 442 (7) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the Legislature,
- 443 provisions relating to the scholarship shortfall reserve
- 444 subaccount in Section 50-27-13, a HOPE scholarship awarded under
- 445 this section shall be not less than Three Thousand Dollars
- 446 (\$3,000.00) for any academic year.
- SECTION 5. (1) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the
- 448 Legislature, a HOPE GED voucher in the amount of Five Hundred
- 449 Dollars (\$500.00) shall be awarded once to each student receiving
- 450 a general educational development (GED) equivalency diploma, which
- 451 shall be valid at any eligible institution of higher learning or
- 452 community or junior college in Mississippi for twenty-four (24)
- 453 months from the date of issuance.
- 454 (2) An otherwise eligible student receiving a HOPE GED
- 455 voucher under this section is eligible for a HOPE scholarship as a
- 456 sophomore, junior or senior student.

457	SECTION 6. (1) To be eligible for a HOPE teacher's
458	scholarship, a student shall:
459	(a) Meet the residency requirements by:
460	(i) In the case of a student attending a state
461	institution of higher learning, meeting the requirements to be
462	eligible for in-state tuition under the law or policy set by the
463	Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning; or
464	(ii) In the case of a student attending an
465	eligible private institution or higher learning, being classified
466	as a legal resident of Mississippi;
467	(b) Be admitted into graduate school and into an
468	advanced degree or approved teacher education program in a
469	critical shortage field of study leading to licensure;
470	(c) Being one of the following:
471	(i) A teacher working in a public or private
472	accredited school in Mississippi who has baccalaureate degree and
473	is seeking an advanced degree in his or her current field which is
474	a critical shortage field or in a new critical shortage field;
475	(ii) An individual with a baccalaureate degree who
476	is seeking an advanced degree in a critical shortage field;
477	(iii) An individual with a master's degree in a
478	critical shortage field who is seeking licensure as a specialist
479	or a doctorate in his or her current critical shortage field;
480	(iv) An individual with a master's degree in a
481	field which is not a critical shortage field who is seeking an
482	advanced degree in a critical shortage field;
483	(v) An individual who has licensure as a
484	specialist in a critical shortage field who is seeking a doctorate
485	in his or her current critical shortage field; or
486	(vi) A teacher working in a public or private
487	accredited school in Mississippi who is seeking to complete an
488	approved program in a critical shortage field for which degree
489	programs are not generally offered; and

- 490 (d) Agree to teach in his or her critical shortage
- 491 field in a public school in Mississippi at the preschool,
- 492 elementary, middle or secondary level for one (1) academic year
- 493 for each Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) in HOPE
- 494 teacher scholarship funds awarded and sign a promissory note that
- 495 stipulates the cash repayment obligation incurred if the teaching
- 496 service is not fulfilled.
- 497 (2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) and
- 498 (c) of this subsection, for students eligible for a HOPE teacher's
- 499 scholarship, no minimum number of hours of enrollment is required
- 500 for eligibility for a HOPE teacher's scholarship.
- 501 (b) The program of study a student is attempting must
- 502 be completed within five (5) years, beginning with the first term
- 503 for which scholarship funds are awarded.
- (c) A student's eligibility for a HOPE teacher's
- 505 scholarship expires if the student has a break in enrollment at an
- 506 eligible institution of more than twelve (12) months.
- 507 (3) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the Legislature,
- 508 a HOPE teacher's scholarship award amount for a student shall not
- 509 exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for the student's program
- of study.
- 511 SECTION 7. An individual who meets any of the following
- 512 criteria is ineligible for the HOPE teacher's scholarship:
- 513 (a) Holding an advanced degree in a critical shortage
- 514 field and seeking an advanced degree in a new critical shortage
- 515 field; or
- 516 (b) Being ineligible for teacher licensure by action of
- 517 the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education,
- 518 Certification and Licensure and Development.
- SECTION 8. A HOPE scholarship may be applied only to tuition
- 520 and mandatory fees not covered by any Pell grant or other federal
- 521 grant.

522	SECTION 9. (1) The Mississippi Postsecondary Education
523	Financial Assistance Board may promulgate rules and regulations
524	not inconsistent with this act relating to scholarships described
525	in this act.
526	(2) The funding for the scholarships described in this act
527	shall be subject to annual appropriations enacted by the
528	Legislature which shall establish the total amount of funding for

SECTION 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2001.

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such scholarships.