

HOUSE BILL No. 4855

May 29, 2007, Introduced by Reps. Hoogendyk, Palmer, Marleau, Agema, Calley, Meekhof, Nitz, Amos, Sheen and Robertson and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to establish a higher education enrollment option grant program for certain students; to prescribe certain duties of public schools; and to prescribe certain powers and duties of certain postsecondary educational institutions and state departments, officials, and agencies.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "Michigan accelerated college education act".

3 Sec. 3. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Authority" means the Michigan higher education assistance
5 authority created by 1960 PA 77, MCL 390.951 to 390.961.

1 (b) "Community college" means a community college established
2 under the community college act of 1966, 1966 PA 331, MCL 389.1 to
3 389.195, or under part 25 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451,
4 MCL 380.1601 to 380.1607, or a federal tribally controlled
5 community college located in this state that is recognized under
6 the tribally controlled community college assistance act of 1978,
7 Public Law 95-471, and is determined by the authority to meet the
8 requirements for accreditation by a recognized regional accrediting
9 body.

10 (c) "Eligible charges" means tuition and mandatory course
11 fees, material fees, and registration fees required by an eligible
12 postsecondary institution for enrollment in an eligible program.
13 Eligible charges also include any late fees charged by an eligible
14 postsecondary institution due to the authority's failure to make a
15 required payment according to the timetable prescribed under this
16 act. Eligible charges do not include transportation or parking
17 costs or activity fees.

18 (d) "Eligible postsecondary institution" means a state
19 university, community college, or independent nonprofit degree-
20 granting college or university that is located in this state and
21 that chooses to comply with this act.

22 (e) "Eligible program" means a program of study offered by an
23 eligible postsecondary institution leading to a bachelor degree or
24 associate degree.

25 (f) "Eligible student" means an individual who meets the
26 eligibility requirements described in section 5(1).

27 (g) "School district" means that term as defined in section 6

1 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.6, a local act
2 school district as defined in section 5 of the revised school code,
3 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.5, or a public school academy organized under
4 part 6a of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.501 to
5 380.507.

6 (h) "State university" means a state institution of higher
7 education described in section 4, 5, or 6 of article VIII of the
8 state constitution of 1963.

9 Sec. 5. (1) An individual who meets all of the following may
10 attend an eligible postsecondary institution without completing
11 high school:

12 (a) He or she meets any of the following at the time he or she
13 is first admitted to an eligible postsecondary institution under
14 this act:

15 (i) Is enrolled in but has not yet graduated from a high school
16 operated by a school district in this state.

17 (ii) Attends a strict discipline academy established under
18 sections 1311b to 1311l of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL
19 380.1311b to 380.1311l.

20 (iii) Attends an alternative education program operated by a
21 school district and described in section 1310, 1311, or 1311a of
22 the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1310, 380.1311, and
23 380.1311a.

24 (iv) Is not currently enrolled in a high school, strict
25 discipline academy, or alternative education program, and was an
26 at-risk pupil, as defined in section 1631a of the state school aid
27 act of 1979, 1979 PA 94, MCL 388.1631a, when he or she was last

1 enrolled in a school in a school district in this state.

2 (v) Was medicaid eligible for 24 months within the 36 months
3 before he or she is first admitted to the eligible postsecondary
4 institution.

5 (b) He or she is at least 15 and less than 19 years of age.

6 (c) He or she has successfully completed at least 1/2 of the
7 credits required for the award of a high school diploma under
8 sections 1278a(1) and 1278b(1) of the revised school code, 1976 PA
9 451, MCL 380.1278a and 380.1278b, or received an overall score in
10 the top 25% of a nationally recognized college admission
11 examination that measures English language arts, mathematics,
12 reading, and science and is used by colleges and universities in
13 this state for entrance or placement purposes.

14 (d) He or she is admitted to and enrolled in the eligible
15 postsecondary institution as a full-time student in an eligible
16 program.

17 (2) Upon request by an eligible student or an eligible
18 postsecondary institution, the school district in which the
19 eligible student attended high school shall provide to the eligible
20 student, the authority, and the eligible postsecondary institution
21 a letter signed by the student's high school principal indicating
22 the student's eligibility under subsection (1)(a) and (c).

23 Sec. 7. (1) An eligible student shall receive a grant from the
24 authority, payable directly to the eligible postsecondary
25 institution, for the number of semesters, trimesters, or quarters
26 of full-time enrollment at that postsecondary institution
27 determined under subsection (2). Subject to adjustment under

subsection (6), the amount of a grant is an amount equal to the lesser of the amount of the eligible charges for the semester, trimester, or quarter in which the student is enrolled, and 1 of the following amounts:

(a) If the eligible program in which the student is enrolled is conducted in semesters, \$1,750.00.

(b) If the eligible program in which the student is enrolled is conducted in trimesters, \$1,167.00.

(c) If the eligible program in which the student is enrolled is conducted in quarters, \$875.00.

(2) The following are the maximum number of semesters, trimesters, or quarters of full-time enrollment at an eligible postsecondary institution for which an eligible student may receive a grant under subsection (1):

(a) For an eligible student who attended high school for 4 or fewer semesters, 4 semesters or an equivalent number of trimesters or quarters.

(b) For an eligible student who attended high school for 5 semesters, 3 semesters or an equivalent number of trimesters or quarters.

(c) For an eligible student who attended high school for 6 semesters, 2 semesters or an equivalent number of trimesters or quarters.

(d) For an eligible student who attended high school for 7 semesters, 1 semester or an equivalent number of trimesters or quarters.

(e) An eligible student who graduated from or attended high

1 school for 8 or more semesters may not receive a grant under this
2 act.

3 (3) After an eligible student's first semester, trimester, or
4 quarter of enrollment in an eligible program, the authority is not
5 required to pay a grant described in subsection (1) in any
6 semester, trimester, or quarter if the student did not maintain a
7 grade point average of at least 2.0 in the preceding semester,
8 trimester, or quarter. This subsection does not reduce the total
9 number of semesters, trimesters, or quarters described in
10 subsection (1) in which the student is entitled to receive a grant
11 under this section.

12 (4) An eligible student is responsible for payment of the
13 remainder of the costs associated with his or her enrollment in the
14 eligible postsecondary institution that exceed the amount of his or
15 her grant under this section.

16 (5) This act does not restrict the ability of an eligible
17 student or any other pupil to enroll in any postsecondary
18 institution without meeting this act.

19 (6) In any state fiscal year, the legislature in its annual
20 appropriations act appropriating money for the authority may adjust
21 the amount of the maximum grant available to eligible students
22 eligible under subsection (1) based upon its determination of
23 available resources.

24 Sec. 9. (1) Unless otherwise agreed between an eligible
25 postsecondary institution and the authority, after the expiration
26 of the postsecondary institution's period for dropping or adding
27 courses in the eligible program in each semester, trimester, or

1 quarter for which the authority is required to make a grant payment
2 under section 7, the eligible postsecondary institution shall
3 provide written notice to the authority of the amount of eligible
4 charges for the eligible program in which the student is enrolled.
5 The authority shall make the grant payment within 30 days of
6 receiving the notice.

7 (2) An eligible postsecondary institution shall not charge a
8 late fee to an eligible student or the authority for a grant paid
9 in compliance with the time period described in subsection (1) even
10 if the payment would otherwise be considered late by the
11 postsecondary institution.

12 Sec. 11. (1) An eligible postsecondary institution may refuse
13 to admit an eligible student if it determines that student may not
14 understand the consequences of failing or not completing the
15 eligible program in which the eligible student intends to enroll;
16 the effect of enrolling in the eligible program on the student's
17 ability to receive a high school diploma; or the academic and
18 social responsibilities that the student and his or her parent or
19 guardian assume by enrolling in the institution as a full-time
20 student.

21 (2) Within a reasonable time after registration, an eligible
22 postsecondary institution shall send written notice to an eligible
23 student and his or her former school district indicating the
24 eligible program in which the eligible student is enrolled. The
25 eligible postsecondary institution shall notify the eligible
26 student about tuition, fees, books, materials, and other related
27 charges, as determined by the eligible postsecondary institution,

1 in the customary manner used by the eligible postsecondary
2 institution, and shall notify the eligible student of the amount of
3 the eligible charges that it included in the notice to the
4 authority under section 9(1).

5 (3) To the extent possible, an eligible postsecondary
6 institution shall provide counseling services to an eligible
7 student and his or her parent or guardian after the eligible
8 student enrolls in the institution as a full-time student to ensure
9 that the eligible student and his or her parent or guardian are
10 fully aware of the benefits, risks, and possible consequences of
11 attending the institution. The person providing the counseling
12 shall encourage the eligible student and his or her parent or
13 guardian to also use available counseling services at the eligible
14 postsecondary institution before enrollment to ensure that the
15 student's anticipated plans are appropriate. An eligible
16 postsecondary institution may provide the counseling required under
17 this section in a group meeting if additional personalized
18 counseling is also made available.

19 Enacting section 1. This act does not take effect unless
20 Senate Bill No.____ or House Bill No. 4856(request no. 00765'07 a)
21 of the 94th Legislature is enacted into law.