

House Bill 1072 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Coomer of the 14th, Abrams of the 89th, Rogers of the 29th, Blackmon of the 146th, Harden of the 148th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-374 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 service cancelable loan fund and authorized types of service cancelable educational loans
3 financed by state funds and issued by the Georgia Student Finance Authority, so as to remove
4 ineligibility for such loans for members of the Georgia National Guard also receiving HOPE
5 scholarship or HOPE grant funds; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 20-3-374 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to service
10 cancelable loan fund and authorized types of service cancelable educational loans financed
11 by state funds and issued by the Georgia Student Finance Authority, is amended by revising
12 paragraph (2) of subsection (b) as follows:

13 "(2) **Georgia National Guard members.** The authority is authorized to make service
14 cancelable educational loans to residents of Georgia who are eligible members of the
15 Georgia National Guard and who are enrolled at the undergraduate level in a private or
16 public college or public postsecondary technical or vocational school located in the state.
17 Members of the Georgia National Guard who are in good standing according to
18 applicable regulations of the National Guard shall be eligible to apply for a loan. Such
19 loans shall be on the terms and conditions set by the authority in consultation with the
20 Department of Defense, provided that any such loan shall not exceed an amount equal to
21 the actual tuition charged to the recipient for the period of enrollment in an educational
22 institution or the tuition charged by the University of Georgia for the period of enrollment
23 at the university, whichever is less. ~~Students eligible for the HOPE scholarship or HOPE~~
24 ~~grant at an eligible public or private postsecondary institution are not eligible to receive~~
25 ~~this loan during a school term in which they are receiving HOPE scholarship or HOPE~~
26 ~~grant funds.~~ A loan recipient shall not be eligible to receive loan assistance provided for

27 in this paragraph for more than five academic years of study. Educational loans may be
28 made to full-time and half-time students. Upon the recipient's attainment of a
29 baccalaureate degree from an institution or cessation of status as an active member,
30 whichever occurs first, the loan provided by this paragraph shall be discontinued. The
31 loan provided by this paragraph may be suspended at the discretion of the authority for
32 a recipient's failure to maintain good military standing as an active member or failure to
33 maintain sufficient academic standing and good academic progress and program pursuit.
34 Loans made under this paragraph shall be repayable in cash, with interest thereon, or,
35 upon satisfactory completion of a quarter, semester, year, or other period of study as
36 determined by the authority; graduation; termination of enrollment in school; or
37 termination of this assistance with approval of the authority, shall be canceled in
38 consideration of the student's retaining membership in the Georgia National Guard during
39 the period in which the loan is applicable. The adjutant general of Georgia shall certify
40 eligibility and termination of eligibility of students for educational loans and eligibility
41 for cancellation of educational loans by members of the Georgia National Guard in
42 accordance with regulations of the authority;"

43 **SECTION 2.**

44 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.