



Sen. Cristina Castro

Filed: 4/20/2018

10000SB2846sam001

LRB100 18458 AXK 38674 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2846

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2846 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
5 amended by adding Section 65.105 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/65.105 new)

7 Sec. 65.105. Grant for high risk students formerly in the
8 care of the Department of Children and Family Services.

9 (a) Subject to the appropriation of funds for this purpose,
10 the Commission shall each year receive and consider
11 applications for grant assistance under this Section. An
12 applicant is eligible for a grant under this Section if the
13 Commission finds that the applicant:

14 (1) is a youth for whom the Department of Children and
15 Family Services has court-ordered legal responsibility, a
16 youth who aged out of care at age 18 or older, or a youth

1 formerly under care who has been adopted and was the
2 subject of an adoption assistance agreement or who has been
3 placed in private guardianship and was the subject of a
4 subsidized guardianship agreement;

5 (2) will have earned a high school diploma from an
6 accredited institution or a high school equivalency
7 certificate or will have met the State criteria for high
8 school graduation, before the start of the academic year
9 for which the student is applying for the grant;

10 (3) if enrolling as a first-time freshman, has not yet
11 reached the age of 26; and

12 (4) will be, at the time of the payment of the grant,
13 enrolled in an Illinois public university or community
14 college.

15 (b) An applicant who is determined to be eligible for
16 assistance under this Section shall receive, subject to
17 appropriation, a grant to be applied to the applicant's tuition
18 and fees and paid directly to the public institution of higher
19 learning at which the applicant is enrolled. The amount of the
20 grant shall be sufficient to pay the institution's tuition and
21 fee costs that remain after applying any Monetary Award Program
22 grant and federal Pell Grant to the student's account.

23 (c) A grant awarded under this Section may be renewed for a
24 total of up to 5 years of full-time enrollment at a public
25 institution of higher learning, including summer terms, so long
26 as the student makes satisfactory progress toward completing

1 his or her undergraduate degree. The age requirement and 5-year
2 cap on grants under this Section shall be waived and
3 eligibility for a grant shall be extended for any applicant or
4 student whom the Commission determines was unable to enroll in
5 a public institution of higher learning or complete an academic
6 term because the applicant or student (i) was called into
7 active duty with the United States Armed Forces, (ii) was
8 deployed for service in the United States Public Health Service
9 Commissioned Corps, or (iii) volunteered in the Peace Corps or
10 AmeriCorps. The Commission shall extend eligibility for a
11 qualifying applicant or student by the total number of months
12 or years during which the applicant or student served on active
13 duty with the United States Armed Forces, was deployed for
14 service in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned
15 Corps, or volunteered in the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps. The
16 number of months an applicant or student served on active duty
17 with the United States Armed Forces shall be rounded up to the
18 next higher year to determine the maximum length of time to
19 extend eligibility for the applicant or student.

20 (d) The General Assembly encourages the Commission and the
21 Department of Children and Family Services to coordinate to
22 simplify, to the extent feasible, the process of confirming
23 applicant eligibility for a grant under this Section.

24 (e) The Commission shall adopt rules to implement this
25 Section."