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1 IN THE SENATE

BY JOSEPHSON AND KERTTULA

2

SENATE BILL NO. 134

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing an Alaska state scholarship
7 program; and providing for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 14.42.030(b) is amended to read:

10 (b) The commission shall

11 (1) develop a comprehensive statewide plan for coordinated
12 postsecondary education in the state and serve as the state commission
13 on postsecondary education required under sec. 1202 of Title XII of
14 the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Education Amend-
15 ments of 1972 (PL 92-318, sec. 196; 86 Stat. 324);

16 (2) establish a state advisory council on community col-
17 leges and develop a comprehensive statewide plan for the expansion and
18 improvement of the community colleges under sec. 1001 of Title X of
19 the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Education Amend-
20 ments of 1972 (PL 92-318, sec. 186; 86 Stat. 312, 313);

21 (3) serve as the state agency required under secs. 105 of
22 Title I (Community Service and Continuing Education), 603 of Title VI
23 (Financial Assistance for Undergraduate Education) and 704 of Title
24 VII (Construction of Academic Facilities) of the Higher Education Act
25 of 1965 (PL 89-329; 79 Stat. 1220, 1262; 20 U.S.C. 1005, 1123) as
26 authorized by sec. 1202(c) of Title XII of the Higher Education Act of
27 1965, as amended by the Education Amendments of 1972 (PL 92-318, sec.
28 196; 86 Stat. 324);

29 (4) administer the provisions of AS 14.43.090 - 14.43.160

1 (student loan program), and serve as the student financial aid commit-
2 tee;

3 (5) administer the provisions of AS 14.48 (regulation of
4 postsecondary educational institutions);

5 (6) resolve any disputes that exist or arise under a con-
6 sortium or other cooperative agreement between institutions of public
7 and private higher education in the state;

8 (7) administer the provisions of AS 14.43.710 - 14.43.750
9 (Alaska state scholarship program).

10 * Sec. 2. AS 14.43 is amended by adding new sections to read:

11 ARTICLE 8. ALASKA STATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

12 Sec. 14.43.710. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED. The Alaska state scholar-
13 ship program is established. The purpose of the program is to recog-
14 nize academic excellence and to provide financial assistance to eligi-
15 ble students to enable them to attend undergraduate programs in post-
16 secondary educational institutions in the state.

17 Sec. 14.43.720. ADMINISTRATION. The program shall be adminis-
18 tered by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education. The com-
19 mission shall

20 (1) prepare and distribute to the public information con-
21 cerning the program;

22 (2) prescribe by regulation the form and procedures for
23 applying for a scholarship under the program;

24 (3) prescribe by regulation the method, based on the scho-
25 lastic performance of applicants, for selecting recipients of scholar-
26 ships under the program;

27 (4) distribute scholarships to the successful applicants.

28 Sec. 14.43.730. ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible for a scholarship
29 under the program, an applicant must be eligible for admission as an

1 undergraduate in a postsecondary educational institution in the state
2 and must

3 (1) be enrolled as a senior in a high school in the state;
4 or

5 (2) have graduated from a high school in the state no more
6 than one year before the date of application.

7 Sec. 14.43.740. SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS. (a) Scholarships under the
8 program are \$1,500 per school year. Each school year the commission
9 shall award 40 scholarships, excluding renewal scholarships under (b)
10 of this section. Four scholarships shall be awarded to students in
11 each senate election district with two senators, and two scholarships
12 shall be awarded to students in each senate election district with one
13 senator. If legislative appropriations are insufficient to fund all
14 of the scholarships in a school year, the renewal scholarships under
15 (b) of this section shall be paid first and the remaining funds shall
16 be distributed proportionately among the senate election districts.

17 (b) A scholarship may be renewed for up to three school years
18 for a student who

19 (1) makes a timely application to the commission;

20 (2) remains enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student
21 in a postsecondary educational institution in the state; and

22 (3) maintains a grade point average of 3.25 or more.

23 (c) A scholarship under the program may be used only for

24 (1) tuition and fees for an undergraduate program at a
25 postsecondary educational institution in the state;

26 (2) room and board;

27 (3) transportation between the student's place of residence
28 and the postsecondary educational institution;

29 (4) books and supplies; and

1 (5) personal expenses while attending the postsecondary
2 educational institution.

3 Sec. 14.43.750. DEFINITIONS. In AS 14.43.710 - 14.43.750

4 (1) "commission" means the Alaska Commission on Postsecond-
5 ary Education;

6 (2) "full-time student" means an undergraduate student who
7 is enrolled and is in regular attendance at classes for at least 12
8 semester hours of credit or the equivalent during the semester;

9 (3) "program" means the Alaska state scholarship program;

10 (4) "school year" means the period from September 1 of one
11 year through August 31 of the following year;

12 (5) "undergraduate" means a student who has not received a
13 baccalaureate degree.

14 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1987.