

ARKANSAS SENATE
83rd General Assembly - Regular Session, 2001
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 982

"AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; TO
CHANGE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS; TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF
APPLICANTS; AND TO LOWER THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD."

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 982.

Amend Senate Bill No. 982 as originally introduced:

Page 2, delete line 36 and substitute the following:

"(9)(A) "Extraordinary academic ability" means:

(i)(a) Achievement of a score of 32 or above on the American College Test (ACT), or 1410 or above on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT); and

(b) Achievement of a high school grade point average of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale; or

(ii) ~~selection~~ Selection as a finalist in either the National Merit Scholarship competition or the National Achievement Scholarship competition conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

(B) For students graduating after December 31, 2001, the American College Test scores and Scholastic Aptitude Test scores shall be earned by December 31 prior to the application deadline in order to be considered by the department for a scholarship award."

AND

Page 3, delete lines 1 through 4

AND

Page 5, insert a new section immediately after Section 5 to read as follows:

"SECTION 6. Arkansas Code 6-82-308 is amended to read as follows:
6-82-308. Number and geographic distribution of scholarships.

(a) ~~The~~ If sufficient funds are available, effective for students receiving their initial awards beginning in fall, 2001, the number of initial scholarship awards to eligible high achievers shall not exceed ~~three hundred (300)~~ two hundred seventy five (275) each year, to be distributed as follows:

(1) Up to two hundred fifty (250) Governor's Distinguished

Scholarships capped at thirteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500) per year; and

(2) Twenty five (25) Governor's Scholarships at four thousand dollars (\$4,000) per year. However, one (1) such award shall be made to a student in each of the seventy five (75) counties, and the remainder shall be made to students from the state at large.

(b)(1) Effective for students receiving their initial awards beginning in fall, 2002, up to two hundred fifty (250) initial awards may be made provided if, at the end of calendar year 2001 and each year thereafter, the Department of Higher Education can demonstrate, based on economic projections and revenue forecasts relative to the number of Academic Challenge recipients then receiving the scholarship, that sufficient funds are available for that purpose.

(2) A report of the same shall be submitted to the House and Senate Interim Committees on Education and the Legislative Council for review prior to obligating the funds.

(3) Should a shortfall of funds be projected, the department shall promulgate regulations for the priority funding of these scholarships and submit these proposed regulations to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for a public hearing and to the Legislative Council through its Rules and Regulations Subcommittee for review before implementing such regulations."

AND

Appropriately renumber the remaining sections

AND

Page 6, delete lines 9 through 10, and substitute the following:
"section equals tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees charged in academic year 2000-2001 for a regular full-time course load by the approved institution"

AND

Page 6, delete lines 18 through 19 and substitute the following:
"(2) Tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees charged for a regular full-time course load in academic year 2000-2001 by the approved institution"

AND

Page 6, line 33, delete "March 1, 2001" and substitute "April 30, 2001"

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

**By: Senator Whitaker
KAS/TRB - 032920011649
TRB485**

Secretary