

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

A Bill

SENATE BILL

507

By: Senator Bookout

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6, CHAPTER 82, SUBCHAPTER 2 OF ARKANSAS CODE OF 1987 BY ADDING SECTION 6-82-213 TO INCREASE SUPPORT FOR THE STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM IN ORDER TO MEET PROJECTED INCREASES IN STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND TO RAISE THE PROPORTIONS OF ARKANSANS ATTENDING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO MATCH THE NATIONAL AVERAGE WITHIN A TEN YEAR PERIOD, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code of 1987, Title 6, Chapter 82, Subchapter 2 is amended to add a new Section 213 to read as follows:

"6-82-213 Legislative Intent - Enhancement of the Student Assistance Grant Program.

(a) It is the intent of the Arkansas General Assembly to significantly increase support for the Student Assistance Grant Program, previously known as the State Scholarship Program, in order to provide increased assistance to students and to raise the proportions of Arkansans attending institutions of higher education to match the national average within a ten year period. To reach these objectives, it is the intent of the Arkansas General Assembly to guard against continuing inflation and to accommodate the projected increase in the percentage of high school students going on to post-secondary education by providing a significant increase in funding for the Student Assistance Grant Program during the 1989-91 biennium and an additional increase of ten percent (10%) each year for ten (10) years, beginning with the 1991-92 fiscal year.

(b) The following funding targets are established for fiscal years 1990 through 1999 for the Student Assistance Grant Program:

FY90.....\$ 7,243,796

FY91.....	\$ 8,386,924
FY92.....	\$ 9,225,616
FY93.....	\$10,148,178
FY94.....	\$11,162,996
FY95.....	\$12,279,295
FY96.....	\$13,507,225
FY97.....	\$14,857,947
FY98.....	\$16,343,742
FY99.....	\$17,987,116"

SECTION 2. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that the current proportion of Arkansans attending institutions of higher education is extremely low and well below the national average; that an urgent need exists to provide greater financial assistance to the Student Assistance Grant Program to help accommodate the projected increase in the percentage of high school students seeking to pursue post-secondary educational goals. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act, being necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force and effect July 1, 1989.