THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1356 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, EICHELBERGER, ARGALL, SCAVELLO, HUGHES, SCHWANK, DINNIMAN, HAYWOOD, BROWNE, WARD AND AUMENT, AUGUST 30, 2016

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, AUGUST 30, 2016

AN ACT

Amending the act of January 25, 1966 (1965 P.L.1546, No.541), 1 entitled "An act providing scholarships and providing funds 2 to secure Federal funds for qualified students of the 3 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who need financial assistance to attend postsecondary institutions of higher learning, making 5 an appropriation, and providing for the administration of 6 this act," further providing for eligibility for State 7 scholarship. 8 9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: 10 11 Section 1. Section 4(a)(6) of the act of January 25, 1966 (1965 P.L.1546, No.541), referred to as the Higher Education 12 13 Scholarship Law, is amended to read: 14 Section 4. (a) Any student is eligible for consideration 15 for a State scholarship providing: * * * 16 17 The State scholarship recipient shall be free to attend 18 any approved institution of his choice and apply the scholarship toward the tuition, room, board, books and fees of that 19 institution[.], subject to the following: 20

- 1 (i) The institution is not required to accept the
- 2 scholarship recipient for enrollment, but is free to exact
- 3 compliance with its own admission requirements, standards and
- 4 policies.
- 5 (ii) If the institution is headquartered and domiciled
- 6 through incorporation or charter in this Commonwealth, the
- 7 <u>scholarship recipient shall be eliqible for the scholarship</u>
- 8 <u>award regardless of whether the program of study or the</u>
- 9 <u>scholarship recipient's term enrollment is 100% online or</u>
- 10 blended with classroom credits, provided that the scholarship
- 11 recipient meets all other eligibility requirements as provided
- 12 <u>in this act and as established by the agency.</u>
- 13 (iii) If the institution has a physical location in this
- 14 Commonwealth but is not headquartered and domiciled through
- 15 <u>incorporation or charter in this Commonwealth</u>, the scholarship
- 16 <u>recipient shall be eligible for a scholarship award provided</u>
- 17 that the scholarship recipient's program of study is not
- 18 structured to be more than 50% online or the scholarship
- 19 recipient's online enrollment in a given term does not exceed
- 20 50% of the total credits for that term as established by the
- 21 agency, provided that the scholarship recipient is enrolled at
- 22 the institution's physical location in this Commonwealth and
- 23 provided that the scholarship recipient meets all other
- 24 eliqibility requirements as provided in this act and as
- 25 <u>established by the agency.</u>
- 26 * * *
- 27 Section 2. The amendment of section 4(a)(6) of the act shall
- 28 apply not later than the 2018-2019 award year as determined by
- 29 the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency.
- 30 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.