

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2351 Session of  
2024

INTRODUCED BY WHITE, MARCELL, SCHEUREN, STAATS AND GROVE,  
JUNE 13, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 13, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of January 25, 1966 (1965 P.L.1546, No.541),  
2 entitled "An act providing scholarships and providing funds  
3 to secure Federal funds for qualified students of the  
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who need financial assistance to  
5 attend postsecondary institutions of higher learning, making  
6 an appropriation, and providing for the administration of  
7 this act," further providing for denial of financial  
8 assistance.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 8.2(a)(1) of the act of January 25, 1966  
12 (1965 P.L.1546, No.541), referred to as the Higher Education  
13 Scholarship Law, is amended and the section is amended by adding  
14 a subsection to read:

15 Section 8.2. (a) The agency may deny all forms of financial  
16 assistance to any student:

17 (1) Who is convicted by any court of record of a criminal  
18 offense which was committed after the effective date of this act  
19 which, under the laws of the United States or Pennsylvania,  
20 would constitute a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude [or a  
21 felony]; or

1 \* \* \*

2 (a.1) The agency shall deny all forms of financial  
3 assistance to any student who is convicted of:

4 (1) a felony by any court of record;

5 (2) an offense under 18 Pa.C.S. § 2710 (relating to ethnic  
6 intimidation), 3307 (relating to institutional vandalism) or  
7 5509 (relating to desecration, theft or sale of venerated  
8 objects) or a similar offense in another jurisdiction; or

9 (3) an offense under 18 Pa.C.S. § 3503 (relating to criminal  
10 trespass) for trespassing at a location described under 18  
11 Pa.C.S. § 3307(a) or a similar offense in another jurisdiction.

12 \* \* \*

13 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.