



Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie

**Filed: 5/11/2016**

09900SB3319ham001

LRB099 16706 NHT 48484 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 3319

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 3319 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 50 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/50)

7 Sec. 50. Minority Teachers of Illinois scholarship  
8 program.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Eligible applicant" means a minority student who has  
11 graduated from high school or has received a high school  
12 equivalency certificate and ~~and~~ has maintained a  
13 cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.5 on a 4.0  
14 scale, and who by reason thereof is entitled to apply for  
15 scholarships to be awarded under this Section.

16 "Minority student" means a student who is any of the

1 following:

2 (1) American Indian or Alaska Native (a person  
3 having origins in any of the original peoples of North  
4 and South America, including Central America, and who  
5 maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment).

6 (2) Asian (a person having origins in any of the  
7 original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or  
8 the Indian subcontinent, including, but not limited  
9 to, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia,  
10 Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and  
11 Vietnam).

12 (3) Black or African American (a person having  
13 origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa).  
14 Terms such as "Haitian" or "Negro" can be used in  
15 addition to "Black or African American".

16 (4) Hispanic or Latino (a person of Cuban, Mexican,  
17 Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other  
18 Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race).

19 (5) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (a  
20 person having origins in any of the original peoples of  
21 Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).

22 "Qualified student" means a person (i) who is a  
23 resident of this State and a citizen or permanent resident  
24 of the United States; (ii) who is a minority student, as  
25 defined in this Section; (iii) who, as an eligible  
26 applicant, has made a timely application for a minority

1 teaching scholarship under this Section; (iv) who is  
2 enrolled on at least a half-time basis at a qualified  
3 Illinois institution of higher learning; (v) who is  
4 enrolled in a course of study leading to teacher  
5 certification, including alternative teacher  
6 certification; (vi) who maintains a grade point average of  
7 no less than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale; and (vii) who continues to  
8 advance satisfactorily toward the attainment of a degree.

9 (b) In order to encourage academically talented Illinois  
10 minority students to pursue teaching careers at the preschool  
11 or elementary or secondary school level, each qualified student  
12 shall be awarded a minority teacher scholarship to any  
13 qualified Illinois institution of higher learning. However,  
14 preference may be given to qualified applicants enrolled at or  
15 above the junior level.

16 (c) Each minority teacher scholarship awarded under this  
17 Section shall be in an amount sufficient to pay the tuition and  
18 fees and room and board costs of the qualified Illinois  
19 institution of higher learning at which the recipient is  
20 enrolled, up to an annual maximum of \$5,000; except that in the  
21 case of a recipient who does not reside on-campus at the  
22 institution at which he or she is enrolled, the amount of the  
23 scholarship shall be sufficient to pay tuition and fee expenses  
24 and a commuter allowance, up to an annual maximum of \$5,000.

25 (d) The total amount of minority teacher scholarship  
26 assistance awarded by the Commission under this Section to an

1 individual in any given fiscal year, when added to other  
2 financial assistance awarded to that individual for that year,  
3 shall not exceed the cost of attendance at the institution at  
4 which the student is enrolled. If the amount of minority  
5 teacher scholarship to be awarded to a qualified student as  
6 provided in subsection (c) of this Section exceeds the cost of  
7 attendance at the institution at which the student is enrolled,  
8 the minority teacher scholarship shall be reduced by an amount  
9 equal to the amount by which the combined financial assistance  
10 available to the student exceeds the cost of attendance.

11 (e) The maximum number of academic terms for which a  
12 qualified student can receive minority teacher scholarship  
13 assistance shall be 8 semesters or 12 quarters.

14 (f) In any academic year for which an eligible applicant  
15 under this Section accepts financial assistance through the  
16 Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship Program, as authorized by  
17 Section 551 et seq. of the Higher Education Act of 1965, the  
18 applicant shall not be eligible for scholarship assistance  
19 awarded under this Section.

20 (g) All applications for minority teacher scholarships to  
21 be awarded under this Section shall be made to the Commission  
22 on forms which the Commission shall provide for eligible  
23 applicants. The form of applications and the information  
24 required to be set forth therein shall be determined by the  
25 Commission, and the Commission shall require eligible  
26 applicants to submit with their applications such supporting

1 documents or recommendations as the Commission deems  
2 necessary.

3 (h) Subject to a separate appropriation for such purposes,  
4 payment of any minority teacher scholarship awarded under this  
5 Section shall be determined by the Commission. All scholarship  
6 funds distributed in accordance with this subsection shall be  
7 paid to the institution and used only for payment of the  
8 tuition and fee and room and board expenses incurred by the  
9 student in connection with his or her attendance as an  
10 undergraduate student at a qualified Illinois institution of  
11 higher learning. Any minority teacher scholarship awarded  
12 under this Section shall be applicable to 2 semesters or 3  
13 quarters of enrollment. If a qualified student withdraws from  
14 enrollment prior to completion of the first semester or quarter  
15 for which the minority teacher scholarship is applicable, the  
16 school shall refund to the Commission the full amount of the  
17 minority teacher scholarship.

18 (i) The Commission shall administer the minority teacher  
19 scholarship aid program established by this Section and shall  
20 make all necessary and proper rules not inconsistent with this  
21 Section for its effective implementation.

22 (j) When an appropriation to the Commission for a given  
23 fiscal year is insufficient to provide scholarships to all  
24 qualified students, the Commission shall allocate the  
25 appropriation in accordance with this subsection. If funds are  
26 insufficient to provide all qualified students with a

1 scholarship as authorized by this Section, the Commission shall  
2 allocate the available scholarship funds for that fiscal year  
3 on the basis of the date the Commission receives a complete  
4 application form.

5 (k) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (j) or any  
6 other provision of this Section, at least 30% of the funds  
7 appropriated for scholarships awarded under this Section in  
8 each fiscal year shall be reserved for qualified male minority  
9 applicants. If the Commission does not receive enough  
10 applications from qualified male minorities on or before  
11 January 1 of each fiscal year to award 30% of the funds  
12 appropriated for these scholarships to qualified male minority  
13 applicants, then the Commission may award a portion of the  
14 reserved funds to qualified female minority applicants.

15 (l) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance for any  
16 academic year, each recipient of a minority teacher scholarship  
17 awarded under this Section shall be required by the Commission  
18 to sign an agreement under which the recipient pledges that,  
19 within the one-year period following the termination of the  
20 program for which the recipient was awarded a minority teacher  
21 scholarship, the recipient (i) shall begin teaching for a  
22 period of not less than one year for each year of scholarship  
23 assistance he or she was awarded under this Section; and (ii)  
24 shall fulfill this teaching obligation at a nonprofit Illinois  
25 public, private, or parochial preschool, elementary school, or  
26 secondary school at which no less than 30% of the enrolled

1 students are minority students in the year during which the  
2 recipient begins teaching at the school; and (iii) shall, upon  
3 request by the Commission, provide the Commission with evidence  
4 that he or she is fulfilling or has fulfilled the terms of the  
5 teaching agreement provided for in this subsection.

6 (m) If a recipient of a minority teacher scholarship  
7 awarded under this Section fails to fulfill the teaching  
8 obligation set forth in subsection (l) of this Section, the  
9 Commission shall require the recipient to repay the amount of  
10 the scholarships received, prorated according to the fraction  
11 of the teaching obligation not completed, at a rate of interest  
12 equal to 5%, and, if applicable, reasonable collection fees.  
13 The Commission is authorized to establish rules relating to its  
14 collection activities for repayment of scholarships under this  
15 Section. All repayments collected under this Section shall be  
16 forwarded to the State Comptroller for deposit into the State's  
17 General Revenue Fund.

18 (n) A recipient of minority teacher scholarship shall not  
19 be considered in violation of the agreement entered into  
20 pursuant to subsection (l) if the recipient (i) enrolls on a  
21 full time basis as a graduate student in a course of study  
22 related to the field of teaching at a qualified Illinois  
23 institution of higher learning; (ii) is serving, not in excess  
24 of 3 years, as a member of the armed services of the United  
25 States; (iii) is a person with a temporary total disability for  
26 a period of time not to exceed 3 years as established by sworn

1 affidavit of a qualified physician; (iv) is seeking and unable  
2 to find full time employment as a teacher at an Illinois  
3 public, private, or parochial preschool or elementary or  
4 secondary school that satisfies the criteria set forth in  
5 subsection (l) of this Section and is able to provide evidence  
6 of that fact; (v) becomes a person with a permanent total  
7 disability as established by sworn affidavit of a qualified  
8 physician; (vi) is taking additional courses, on at least a  
9 half-time basis, needed to obtain certification as a teacher in  
10 Illinois; or (vii) is fulfilling teaching requirements  
11 associated with other programs administered by the Commission  
12 and cannot concurrently fulfill them under this Section in a  
13 period of time equal to the length of the teaching obligation.

14 (o) Scholarship recipients under this Section who withdraw  
15 from a program of teacher education but remain enrolled in  
16 school to continue their postsecondary studies in another  
17 academic discipline shall not be required to commence repayment  
18 of their Minority Teachers of Illinois scholarship so long as  
19 they remain enrolled in school on a full-time basis or if they  
20 can document for the Commission special circumstances that  
21 warrant extension of repayment.

22 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)".