

SENATE BILL No. 544

By Committee on Assessment and Taxation

3-12

1 AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; relating to scholarship
2 programs; establishing the Kansas academic excellence scholarship
3 program to replace the Kansas ethnic minority scholarship program;
4 amending K.S.A. 74-3284, 74-3285, 74-3286, 74-3287, 74-3288 and
5 74-3289 and repealing the existing sections.

6
7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 Section 1. K.S.A. 74-3284 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-
9 3284. (a) *K.S.A. 74-3284 through 74-3289, and amendments thereto, shall*
10 *be known and may be cited as the Kansas academic excellence*
11 *scholarship program act.*

12 (b) As used in this act:

13 ~~(a)(1)~~ "Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~ academic excellence scholarship
14 program" means a program under which the state, ~~in response to growing~~
15 ~~concerns over loss of talented ethnic minority students to institutions of~~
16 ~~postsecondary education in other states, the need to enhance the diversity~~
17 ~~of the student population at Kansas institutions of postsecondary~~
18 ~~education, and the barriers to ethnic minority student enrollment at Kansas~~
19 ~~institutions of postsecondary education and for the purpose of enabling~~
20 ~~and encouraging talented ethnic minority students to remain in Kansas for~~
21 ~~the attainment of educational goals and fulfillment of career aspirations,~~
22 provides financial assistance through the award of Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~
23 *academic excellence* scholarships to Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~ scholars *who*
24 *have demonstrated academic excellence.*

25 ~~(b)(2)~~ "Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~ academic excellence scholarship"
26 means a financial award *made* by this state under this act to a Kansas
27 ~~ethnic minority academically talented~~ scholar.

28 ~~(c)(3)~~ "Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~ academically talented scholar" means
29 a person who:

30 ~~(1)(A)~~ Is a resident of Kansas;

31 ~~(2)~~ is a member of an ethnic minority group;

32 ~~(3)(B)~~ has been accepted for admission to or is enrolled full time in
33 an educational program at an eligible institution;

34 ~~(4)(C)~~ has established financial need; and

35 ~~(5)(D)~~ has qualified for the award of a Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~
36 *academic excellence* scholarship on the basis of having demonstrated

1 educational ability, or who has previously so qualified and remains
2 qualified for the renewal of a Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~ *academic excellence*
3 scholarship on the basis of maintaining full-time enrollment in an
4 educational program at an eligible institution, remaining in good standing,
5 and making satisfactory progress toward completion of the requirements
6 for the award of a degree or certificate of completion.

7 ~~(d)(4) "Eligible institution" means an institution of postsecondary~~
8 ~~education which maintains open enrollment, the main campus or principal~~
9 ~~place of operation of which is located in Kansas, and which qualifies as an~~
10 ~~eligible institution under the higher education act of 1965 (P.L. 89-329), as~~
11 ~~amended [a state educational institution, as defined in K.S.A. 76-711, and~~
12 ~~amendments thereto, Washburn university] or an accredited independent~~
13 ~~institution, as defined in K.S.A. 72-3222, and amendments thereto.~~

postsecondary educational institution, as defined in K.S.A.
74-3201b, and amendments thereto,

14 ~~(e) "Ethnic minority group" means a group of persons categorized as:~~
15 ~~(1) American Indian or Alaskan Native; (2) Asian or Pacific Islander; (3)~~
16 ~~Black, non-Hispanic; or (4) Hispanic.~~

17 ~~(f) "American Indian or Alaskan Native" means a person having~~
18 ~~origins in any of the original peoples of North America and who maintains~~
19 ~~cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.~~

20 ~~(g) "Asian or Pacific Islander" means a person having origins in any~~
21 ~~of the original peoples of the far east, southeast Asia, the Indian~~
22 ~~subcontinent, or pacific islands. This includes, but not by way of~~
23 ~~limitation, persons from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands,~~
24 ~~Samoa, India and Vietnam.~~

25 ~~(h) "Black, non-Hispanic" means a person having origins in any of~~
26 ~~the black racial groups of Africa (except those of Hispanic origin).~~

27 ~~(i) "Hispanic" means a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban,~~
28 ~~Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of~~
29 ~~race.~~

30 ~~(j)(5) "Financial need" means the difference between the available~~
31 ~~financial resources of a Kansas ~~ethnic minority~~ *academically talented*~~
32 ~~scholar and the scholar's total anticipated expenses to attend an eligible~~
33 ~~institution. A scholar's financial resources shall be determined on the basis~~
34 ~~of criteria provided under the federal methodology of need analysis.~~
35 ~~Financial need shall be determined annually.~~

36 ~~(k)(6) "Semester" means one of two principal terms when there are~~
37 ~~only two principal terms in the academic year of an eligible institution~~
38 ~~whether or not there are other shorter terms during the same academic year~~
39 ~~of the eligible educational institution.~~

40 ~~(l)(7) "Term" means one of two or more substantially equivalent~~
41 ~~divisions of the academic year of an eligible institution.~~

42 ~~(m)(8) "Program period" means the duration of the period of time, or~~
43 ~~any division thereof, required for completion of a vocational or technical~~