

HB1776



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB1776

by Rep. Jim Durkin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 979/5

Amends the Illinois Prepaid Tuition Act. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning the Act's purpose.

LRB101 05811 AXK 50827 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Prepaid Tuition Act is amended by
5 changing Section 5 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 979/5)

7 Sec. 5. Purpose. The ~~The~~ General Assembly finds and
8 declares that the general welfare and security of the State are
9 enhanced by access to higher education for all residents of the
10 State who desire that education and who demonstrate the
11 qualifications necessary to pursue that education.
12 Furthermore, it is desirable that residents of the State who
13 seek to pursue higher education be able to choose attendance at
14 the higher education institution that offers programs and
15 services most suitable to their needs. Accordingly, endeavors
16 that serve the higher education needs of the people of the
17 State represent an essential function of State government.

18 During the past decade, students have been paying more and
19 borrowing more to finance the increasing cost of higher
20 education at Illinois colleges and universities as well as at
21 similar institutions nationwide. Federal and state
22 governments' capacity to fund college scholarships and grants
23 cannot fully meet the current and future demand for higher

1 education nor is it reasonable to expect that paying for
2 college is solely a governmental responsibility. It is -- and
3 has always been -- a shared responsibility among the student,
4 the family, State government, and the federal government.
5 Consequently, the intent of this Act is to both encourage and
6 better enable Illinois families to help themselves finance the
7 cost of higher education, specifically through a program that
8 provides Illinois families with a method of State tax-free and
9 federally tax-exempt savings for higher education.

10 (Source: P.A. 95-217, eff. 8-16-07.)