



Sen. Dan Kotowski

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LRB099 03160 SXM 33922 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 223

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 223 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
5 amended by adding Section 62 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/62 new)

7 Sec. 62. Grants for exonerated persons.

8 (a) In this Section:

9 "Exonerated person" means an individual who has received a
10 pardon from the Governor stating that such a pardon is issued
11 on the grounds of innocence of the crime for which he or she
12 was imprisoned or an individual who has received a certificate
13 of innocence from a circuit court pursuant to Section 2-702 of
14 the Code of Civil Procedure.

15 "Satisfactory academic progress" means the qualified
16 applicant's maintenance of minimum grade levels at the

1 institution of higher learning.

2 (b) The Commission shall, each year, receive and consider
3 applications for grant assistance under this Section.
4 Recipients of grants issued by the Commission in accordance
5 with this Section must be exonerated persons. Recipients need
6 not be Illinois residents at the time of enrollment in order to
7 be eligible for a grant. Recipients are entitled to either
8 payment for the course of study needed for them to obtain a
9 high school equivalency certificate or 8 semesters or 12
10 quarters of full payment of tuition and mandatory fees at the
11 rate established by the Commission for public and private
12 institutions, provided that the recipients are maintaining
13 satisfactory academic progress. The funds from the grant may be
14 used for obtaining a high school equivalency certificate or
15 pursuing undergraduate or graduate study. The benefits of this
16 Section shall be administered by and paid out of funds
17 available to the Commission and shall accrue to the bona fide
18 applicant for a grant without the requirement of demonstrating
19 financial need to qualify for the benefits. The Commission may
20 adopt any rules necessary to implement and administer this
21 Section."