

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 145—ASSEMBLYMAN BROWER

FEBRUARY 15, 2001

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR JACOBSEN

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Expands program for millennium scholarships to provide for disbursement of scholarships to students of certain additional colleges and universities in this state. (BDR 34-581)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the program for millennium scholarships; expanding the program to provide for the disbursement of scholarships to students of certain additional colleges and universities in this state; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a
2 new section to read as follows:
3 *“Eligible institution” means:*
4 1. *A community college;*
5 2. *A university; or*
6 3. *Any other college or university that is:*
7 (a) *Organized under the laws of this state;*
8 (b) *Exempt from taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3); and*
9 (c) *Accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the*
10 *United States Department of Education.*
11 **Sec. 2.** NRS 396.911 is hereby amended to read as follows:
12 396.911 1. The legislature hereby declares that its priorities in
13 expending the proceeds to the State of Nevada from settlement agreements
14 with and civil actions against manufacturers of tobacco products are:
15 (a) To increase the number of Nevada students who attend and graduate
16 from Nevada institutions of higher education; and



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1 (b) To assist Nevada residents in obtaining and maintaining good
2 health.

3 2. To further these priorities, the legislature hereby declares that it is in
4 the best interest of the residents of the State of Nevada that all money
5 received by the State of Nevada pursuant to any settlement entered into by
6 the State of Nevada and a manufacturer of tobacco products and all money
7 recovered by the State of Nevada from a judgment in a civil action against
8 a manufacturer of tobacco products be dedicated solely toward the
9 achievement of the following goals:

10 (a) Increasing the number of residents of the State of Nevada who enroll
11 in and attend a university, college or community college ~~of the University~~
12 ~~and Community College System~~ in the State of Nevada;

13 (b) Reducing and preventing the use of tobacco products, alcohol and
14 illegal drugs, especially by children;

15 (c) Expanding the availability of health insurance and health care for
16 children and adults in this state, especially for children and for adults with
17 disabilities;

18 (d) Assisting senior citizens who have modest incomes in purchasing
19 prescription drugs and assisting those senior citizens in meeting their needs
20 related to health care, home care, respite care and their ability to live
21 independent of institutional care; and

22 (e) Promoting the general health of all residents of the State of Nevada.

23 **Sec. 3.** NRS 396.914 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 396.914 As used in NRS 396.914 to 396.938, inclusive, *and section 1*
25 *of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms
26 defined in NRS 396.918 and 396.922 *and section 1 of this act* have the
27 meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

28 **Sec. 4.** NRS 396.930 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 396.930 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, a
30 student may apply to the board of regents for a millennium scholarship if
31 he:

32 (a) Has been a resident of this state for at least 2 years before he applies
33 for the scholarship;

34 (b) Graduated from a public or private high school in this state:

35 (1) After May 1, 2000; and

36 (2) Not more than 8 years before he applies for the scholarship;

37 (c) Maintained at least a 3.0 grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale
38 in high school in the core curriculum, as determined by the board of
39 regents pursuant to subsection 2; and

40 (d) Is enrolled in at least ~~12 semester credit hours in a university or at~~
41 ~~least 6~~ :

42 (1) *Six* semester credit hours in a community college ~~11~~ ; or

43 (2) *Twelve semester credit hours in another eligible institution.*

44 2. The board of regents shall:

45 (a) Define the core curriculum that a student must complete in high
46 school to be eligible for a millennium scholarship.

47 (b) Develop a plan to ensure that needy students and students from
48 families that otherwise could not afford to send their children to college
49 receive millennium scholarships.



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1 3. For students who did not graduate from a public or private high
2 school in this state and who have been residents of this state for at least 2
3 years, the board of regents shall establish:

4 (a) The minimum score on a standardized test that such students must
5 receive; or

6 (b) Other criteria that students must meet,
7 to be eligible for millennium scholarships.

8 4. In awarding scholarships, the board of regents shall enhance its
9 outreach to students who:

10 (a) Are pursuing a career in education or health care;

11 (b) Come from families who lack sufficient financial resources to pay
12 for the costs of sending their children to ~~a university or community~~
13 ~~college;~~ *an eligible institution;* or

14 (c) Substantially participated in an anti-smoking, anti-drug or anti-
15 alcohol program during high school.

16 **Sec. 5.** NRS 396.934 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 396.934 1. Within the limits of money available in the trust fund, a
18 student who is eligible for a millennium scholarship is entitled to receive:

19 (a) If he is enrolled in a community college, \$40 per credit for which the
20 student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is necessary for the student
21 to pay the costs of attending the community college that are not otherwise
22 satisfied by other grants or scholarships, whichever is less.

23 (b) If he is enrolled in ~~a university;~~ *another eligible institution,* \$80
24 per credit for which the student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is
25 necessary for the student to pay the costs of attending the ~~university;~~
26 *eligible institution* that are not otherwise satisfied by other grants or
27 scholarships, whichever is less.

28 No student may be awarded a scholarship for a total amount in excess of
29 \$10,000.

30 2. A student who receives a millennium scholarship shall:

31 (a) Make satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or
32 certificate, as determined by the board of regents pursuant to subsection 6;
33 and

34 (b) Maintain at least a 2.0 grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale.

35 3. A millennium scholarship must be used only:

36 (a) For the payment of registration fees and laboratory fees and
37 expenses;

38 (b) To purchase required textbooks and course materials; and

39 (c) For other costs related to the attendance of the student at the
40 ~~university or community college;~~ *eligible institution.*

41 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a student drops
42 out of school or fails to maintain at least a 2.0 grade-point average in any
43 semester, the student shall repay the millennium scholarship before the
44 student is eligible to receive an additional millennium scholarship or
45 otherwise receive money pursuant to NRS 396.914 to 396.934, inclusive ~~+~~
46 *, and section 1 of this act.* The board of regents shall establish criteria for a
47 waiver from the repayment required by this subsection, including, without
48 limitation, service in the military and conditions of hardship such as
49 medical necessity.



1 5. The board of regents shall certify a list of eligible students to the
2 state treasurer. The state treasurer shall disburse a millennium scholarship
3 for each semester on behalf of an eligible student directly to the
4 ~~community college or university~~ *eligible institution* in which the student
5 is enrolled, upon certification from the ~~community college or university~~
6 *eligible institution* of the number of credits for which the student is
7 enrolled, which must meet or exceed the minimum number of credits
8 required for eligibility and certification that the student is in good standing
9 and making satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or
10 certificate, as determined by the board of regents pursuant to subsection 6.
11 The scholarship must be administered by the ~~community college or~~
12 ~~university~~ *eligible institution* as other similar scholarships are
13 administered and may be used only for the expenditures authorized
14 pursuant to subsection 3.

15 6. The board of regents shall establish criteria for determining whether
16 a student is making satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized
17 degree or certificate for purposes of subsection 5.

18 **Sec. 6.** NRS 439.600 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 439.600 1. The legislature hereby declares that its priorities in
20 expending the proceeds to the State of Nevada from settlement agreements
21 with and civil actions against manufacturers of tobacco products are:

22 (a) To increase the number of Nevada students who attend and graduate
23 from Nevada institutions of higher education; and

24 (b) To assist Nevada residents in obtaining and maintaining good
25 health.

26 2. To further these priorities, the legislature hereby declares that it is in
27 the best interest of the residents of this state that all money received by the
28 State of Nevada pursuant to any settlement entered into by the State of
29 Nevada and a manufacturer of tobacco products and all money recovered
30 by the State of Nevada from a judgment in a civil action against a
31 manufacturer of tobacco products be dedicated solely toward the
32 achievement of the following goals:

33 (a) Increasing the number of Nevada residents who enroll in and attend
34 a university, *college* or community college ~~of the University and~~
35 ~~Community College System~~ *in the State* of Nevada;

36 (b) Reducing and preventing the use of tobacco products, alcohol and
37 illegal drugs, especially by children;

38 (c) Expanding the availability of health insurance and health care for
39 children and adults in this state, especially for children and for adults with
40 disabilities;

41 (d) Assisting senior citizens who have modest incomes in purchasing
42 prescription drugs and assisting those senior citizens in meeting their needs
43 related to health care, home care, respite care and their ability to live
44 independent of institutional care; and

45 (e) Promoting the general health of all residents of the State of Nevada.

46 **Sec. 7.** Section 10 of chapter 536, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page
47 2753, is hereby amended to read as follows:

48 Sec. 10. On or before February 1, 2003, the board of regents of
49 the University of Nevada shall submit a report to the director of the



- 1 legislative counsel bureau for transmittal to the 72nd session of the
- 2 Nevada legislature that includes:
- 3 1. An examination of the projected enrollment of students in ~~the~~
- 4 ~~University and Community College System of~~ Nevada who will be
- 5 eligible for millennium scholarships;
- 6 2. An actuarial study to determine the approximate costs of
- 7 continuing the millennium scholarship program; and
- 8 3. A report setting forth any enhanced outreach efforts carried out
- 9 pursuant to subsection 4 of section 7 of this act.
- 10 **Sec. 8.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2001.

