

No. 101

AN ACT

HB 1213

Providing for Commonwealth support for institutions of higher education to furnish learning and special counseling services for undergraduate students whose cultural, economic and educational disadvantages impair their initial ability to pursue successfully higher education opportunities, and making an appropriation.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Short Title.—This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Higher Education Equal Opportunity Act.”

Section 2. Legislative Findings.—The General Assembly finds and declares that because of financial, home and community environmental conditions, students with substantial potential for success in college and for future leadership in the community are unable to pursue a higher education and attain their full educational capability. In order to combat effectively the forces which prevent these students from pursuing a higher education, a variety of programs and methods must be tried.

This act is designed to provide funds to institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth for the purpose of offering programs to enhance the chances of disadvantaged students to achieve their educational goals.

Section 3. Definitions.—The following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

(1) “Institutions of higher education” shall mean those post secondary institutions in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorized to award degrees.

(2) “Student” shall mean any bona fide resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who has been admitted as a full-time student to an institution of higher education and who is economically and educationally disadvantaged in accordance with criteria to be established by the State Board of Education.

Section 4. Higher Education Equal Opportunity Program.—The Secretary of Education may, in conformance with such policies, standards, rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Education, contract with institutions of higher education for the awarding of higher education equal opportunity program grants. Programs for which such grants may be awarded shall include, but not be limited to; remedial learning services, counseling services or tutorial services. Funds provided by this act may not be used to pay tuition, room and board or other institutional costs or fees incurred by students.

Section 5. Application for Approval of Grant.—Each institution of higher education requesting a grant to provide a program, as proposed in

this act, shall submit an application in such form and at such time as the Secretary of Education may require. An application for a grant shall include a description of the nature and the method by which all funds granted will be used by the applicant institution to contribute to the provision, maintenance or improvement of programs designed to accomplish the goals of this act.

Section 6. Appropriation.—The sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or as much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated to the Department of Education for the purposes and administration of this act: Provided, however, That of the total sum appropriated no more than four per cent of that amount may be used for administration of the act: And, further provided, That no more than ten per cent of the total sum appropriated shall be granted to any single institution of higher education.

Section 7. Effective Date.—This act shall take effect July 1, 1971.

APPROVED—The 31st day of August, A. D. 1971.

MILTON J. SHAPP

The foregoing is a true and correct copy of Act of the General Assembly No. 101.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "C. McLaughlin Tucker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and "T".

Secretary of the Commonwealth.