

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-5135

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE ROBERTA B. WILLIS

Title: SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

Vote Date: 3/6/2018

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/20/2018

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following Joint Favorable Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Office of Higher Education.

REASONS FOR BILL:

To help clear up confusion between the need and merit-based grant, and the need-based grant the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program will be re-named the Roberta B. Willis Tuition Assistance Program with the need and merit-based grant being known as the "Prudence Crandall Merit Scholarship," and the need-based grant being known as the "Louise Duffy Need-Based Scholarship."

Substitute language:

- Throughout: changes new name of need-based grant from "Willis Need-Based Scholarship" to "Louise Duffy Need-Based Scholarship"
- Line 48: changes "Willis Scholarship Program" to "Willis Tuition Assistance Program" (this captures all old grants issued before the Governor's Scholarship Program: CSG, CAPSC, CICSG)
- Lines 145-147: per OHE's request, adds both new grant names (Prudence Crandall and Louise Duffy) to further help clarify program awards; bill previously only mentioned the overall program name, the "Roberta B. Willis Tuition Assistance Program."

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Keith M. Norton, Acting Executive Director, Office of Higher Education](#) testified and submitted testimony in support of this bill indicating that the different names will provide clarity to families and students.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

See response from administration/agency.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None submitted.

Reported by: Jeanie Phillips, Clerk

Date: March 9, 2018