

# Senate Education Committee

**NIKKI G. SETZLER**  
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April 28, 1999

Dr. Rayburn Barton, Commissioner  
SC Commission on Higher Education  
1333 Main Street, Suite 200  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Dr. Barton:

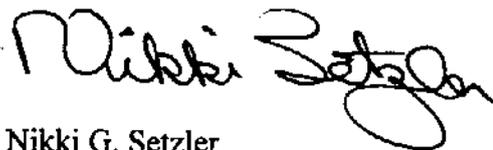
By vote of the Senate Education Committee, it is requested that you withdraw, pending amendment, Regulation Number 2360 relating to LIFE Scholarships. The Committee determined that the regulations do not reflect the intent of the General Assembly as they relate to transfer students and their eligibility to receive the LIFE Scholarship. In addition, it was determined that clarification concerning transient students is necessary. To address the concerns of the Committee, it is requested that the following amendments be made to Regulation 2360:

- 1) 62-540 M. (1) – Amend reference to 1998-99 academic year with language referencing the initial year a student receives the LIFE scholarship.
- 5) 62-540 M. (1), 62-550 A. and A. (1), 62-600 D. (1), (2), (3) and (4), and 62-600 E. – Amend to reflect language consistent with Sections 59-149-80, 59-149-50 (B) and (C) of the Code of Laws concerning transfer students from eligible public and private institutions and the credit hours and cumulative GPA required for receipt of a LIFE scholarship.
- 6) 62-550 A. (2) – Delete.
- 7) 62-550 B. Amend to require transient students to receive approval according to the home institution's policies and to require institutions to accept the credit hours and GPA earned at any other institution when approved by the home institution for use in determining the student's eligibility to receive a LIFE scholarship.

In order for this regulation to be in effect for the fall semester, the amended regulation must be returned to the General Assembly no later than 25 days before the Legislature adjourns sine die. The scheduled date for adjournment is June 3, 1999. The Administrative Procedures Act stipulates that withdrawn regulations not resubmitted within thirty days be considered permanently withdrawn.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan DeWitt of my staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nikki Setzler". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Nikki G. Setzler

cc: Representative Ronald P. Townsend  
Mr. Douglas Carlisle  
Ms. Teresa Arnold



**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

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RAYBURN BARTON  
Executive Director

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April 28, 1999

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mr. Austin Gilbert, Chairman, and Members  
Commission on Higher Education

**FROM:** Dr. Rayburn Barton, Executive Director  
Commission on Higher Education

**Consideration of Regulations for the Legislative Incentives  
For Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship Program**

The 1998 General Assembly approved House Bill 4535, Legislative Incentives for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarships. The Commission on Higher Education approved the proposed LIFE Scholarship regulations on January 7, 1999. Subsequently, the regulations were submitted to the General Assembly. The House Education & Public Works Committee approved the regulations on April 20, 1999. The Senate Education Subcommittee reviewed the regulations on April 20 and April 27, 1999. The Senate Education Committee reviewed the regulations on April 28, 1999 and asked the Commission on Higher Education to withdraw the regulations and add the following amendments:

- 1) 62-540 M. (1) - Amend reference to 1998-99 academic year with language referencing the initial year a student receives the LIFE Scholarship.
- 2) 62-540 M. (1), 62-550 A. and A. (1), 62-600 D. (1), (2), (3) and (4), and 62-600 E. - Amend to reflect language consistent with Sections 59-149-80, 59-149-50 (B) and (C) of the Code of Laws concerning transfer students from eligible public and private institutions and the credit hours and cumulative GPA required for receipt of a LIFE Scholarship.
- 3) 62-550 A. (2) - Delete
- 4) 62-550 B. Amend to require transient students to receive approval according to the home institution's policies and to require institutions to accept the credit hours and GPA earned at any other institution when approved by the home institution for the use in determining the student's eligibility to receive a LIFE Scholarship.

The Senate Education Committee communicated that the LIFE Scholarship Statute clearly states that students receiving the LIFE Scholarship must earn a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale and earn a minimum of 30 credit hours (59-149-80 and 59-149-50). The legislative intent was to allow students to transfer the grade point average and credit hours earned from all prior institutions to retain or gain eligibility for the LIFE Scholarship.

In addition, the Senate Education Committee stated that in order for the LIFE Scholarship regulations to be in effect for the fall semester, the amended regulation must be returned to the General Assembly no later than 25 days before the Legislature adjourns sine die. The Administrative Procedures Act stipulates that withdrawn regulations not resubmitted within thirty days be considered permanently withdrawn.

Due to the timeliness of this matter, the amendments to the regulations as requested by the Senate Education Committee were not reviewed by the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services but will be submitted directly to the Commission on Higher Education for review on May 6, 1999.