

House Bill 1303

By: Representatives Dickey of the 140th, England of the 116th, Pirkle of the 155th, Erwin of the 28th, Bentley of the 139th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to educational programs, so as to transition a pilot program for
3 elementary agricultural education to an ongoing program; to require schools to employ an
4 agricultural education teacher; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
5 for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to educational programs, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-154.3, relating
10 to a pilot program for agricultural education in elementary schools and evaluation of
11 program, as follows:

12 "20-2-154.3.

13 ~~(a) The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program, shall be~~
14 ~~authorized to establish a pilot program, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, to provide~~
15 ~~for agricultural education in elementary schools in this state. The purpose of the pilot~~

16 ~~program shall be to determine whether and how to implement an elementary agricultural~~
17 ~~education program state wide.~~

18 (b)(a) The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program employees
19 described in Code Section 20-2-154.2, is authorized to ~~select a minimum of six public~~
20 administer an agricultural education program in elementary schools for participation in the
21 pilot program, in accordance with one elementary school in each of the six existing regions
22 this Code section and the practices or standards established by the agricultural education
23 program of the Department of Education. The local board of education for each elementary
24 school ~~selected to be in the pilot program~~ shall agree to implement and fully fund an
25 elementary agricultural education program in such school in accordance with this Code
26 section and to continue to provide such elementary the practices or standards established
27 by the agricultural education program ~~for a period no shorter than three years of the~~
28 Department of Education. The local school system ~~may~~ shall employ an agricultural
29 education teacher to provide such program for the elementary school.

30 (c)(b) The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program employees
31 described in Code Section 20-2-154.2, ~~and local school systems~~ shall ~~collaborate to~~
32 establish the curriculum for each elementary agricultural education program. Such
33 curriculum shall be grade-appropriate and include instruction in an organized classroom;
34 collaborative learning experiences through investigation and inquiry, including laboratory
35 and site-based learning activities; and personal and leadership development opportunities.

36 (d)(c) The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program, shall
37 provide for a program evaluation regarding the success and impact of the pilot program
38 ~~upon completion of in place in the third year of the pilot program 2019-2020, 2020-2021,~~
39 and 2021-2022 school years and shall report in writing the results of such evaluation to the
40 House Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs and the Senate Agriculture and
41 Consumer Affairs Committee and to the House Committee on Education and the Senate
42 Education and Youth Committee, by December 31, 2022.

43

SECTION 2.

44 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.