

ADOPTED SENATE**SENATE SUBSTITUTE TO HB 282****A BILL TO BE ENTITLED****AN ACT**

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for improved curriculum, programs,
3 and activities related to civic education, English as a Second Language, and career readiness;
4 to provide for a definition; to prioritize the use of school facilities to certain youth groups;
5 to provide for a civic education coursework; to provide a minimum course of study in career
6 readiness education; to provide for legislative findings; to direct the Department of Education
7 to develop, assemble, and make available instructional resources and materials concerning
8 employability and career readiness skills, career exploration, and career oriented learning
9 experiences; to provide for community outreach efforts regarding English for speakers of
10 other languages (ESOL) programs; to provide for standards for foreign language interpreters;
11 to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for instructional materials and content on
12 civic education in digital or electronic format; to provide for the payment of the costs of
13 health insurance coverage for family members of local board of education members; to
14 amend Article 33 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating
15 to the "Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Act," so as to revise provisions for expedited
16 completion of a student's first Individualized Education Program; to provide for calculating
17 maximum scholarship amounts for certain students; to provide for electronic deposits; to
18 amend Chapter 18 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state
19 printing and documents, so as to add an exception for the Department of Early Care and

20 Learning to the prohibition on collecting certain personal information; to require local
21 education agencies to implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting disparate
22 emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple state and
23 local first responder agencies in the event of a school security emergency; to provide for
24 exceptions; to require the Department of Administrative Services to conduct market research
25 and possibly issue a competitive solicitation for multiple vendors to provide for such
26 systems; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
27 and for other purposes.

28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

29 **SECTION 1.**

30 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
31 secondary education, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-12, which is reserved, as
32 follows:

33 "20-2-12.

34 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'patriotic society' means a youth group listed in
35 Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society, including the Boy Scouts of
36 America and its affiliated Georgia groups and councils and the Girl Scouts of the United
37 States of America and its affiliated Georgia groups and councils.

38 (b) Every local board of education that uses state funds to implement programs under this
39 chapter shall give priority in the use of school facilities to a patriotic society in order to
40 encourage schools to facilitate access for students to participate in activities provided by
41 a patriotic society at times other than instructional time during the school day for the
42 purposes of encouraging civic education. If a local board of education denies priority
43 access to a patriotic society, such local board shall provide reasons for the denial in writing
44 to a requesting entity. Reserved."

45

SECTION 2.

46 Code Section 20-2-55 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to per diem,
47 insurance, and expenses of local board members, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of
48 subsection (b) as follows:

49 "(b)(1) A local board of education is authorized to provide group medical and dental
50 insurance for its members who elect to participate. Such insurance may be provided
51 through a group policy secured by the local school district, a group policy secured by
52 several local school districts, a policy secured by an organization of local school boards,
53 or in accordance with Code Section 45-18-5 providing for the inclusion of members of
54 the local board of education and their spouses and dependents within any health insurance
55 plan or plans established under Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45. It shall be the duty
56 of the board to make the employer contributions required for the operation of such plan
57 or plans. Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, a board providing such
58 insurance shall pay no greater percentage of the cost of that insurance than the percentage
59 of the cost paid as an employer contribution by the state for the health insurance plan for
60 state employees pursuant to Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45. The remainder of such
61 insurance costs, ~~and all the costs of any coverage for family members,~~ shall be paid as an
62 employee contribution by the board member. It shall be the duty of the board to deduct
63 from the salary or other remuneration of qualified members or otherwise collect such
64 payment from the qualified members or dependents."

65

SECTION 3.

66 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 20-2-142.1, relating to coursework in the
67 founding philosophy and principles of the United States of America, by revising
68 subparagraph (c)(2)(G) as follows:

69 "(G) The principles of economy in spending, constitutional limitations on government
70 power to tax and spend, and prompt payment of public debt, and an interactive taxpayer
71 receipt web-based application and a budget simulator web-based application;"

72 **SECTION 4.**

73 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 20-2-145.1, relating to career
74 education, as follows:

75 "20-2-145.1.

76 (a) The General Assembly finds that students will be better prepared to enter the workforce
77 and succeed in their chosen careers by having the opportunity to participate in classroom
78 instruction and training experiences focused on employability and career readiness skills,
79 including, but not limited to, professionalism; problem solving and resiliency; effective
80 communication; time management and efficiency; and collaboration, teamwork, and
81 leadership competencies in the workplace.

82 (b)(1) The State Board of Education shall prescribe a minimum course of study in career
83 readiness education for students in grades six through 12. Such minimum course of study
84 shall be age appropriate and shall include, but not be limited to, instruction and training
85 experiences focused on employability and career readiness skills, career exploration, and
86 career oriented learning experiences. Instruction and training experiences focused on
87 employability and career readiness skills shall include those skills described in
88 subsection (a) of this Code section. Career oriented learning experiences shall include,
89 but not be limited to, participation in work based learning programs such as internships,
90 apprenticeships, cooperative education, or employability skill development. The State
91 Board of Education shall ensure that career oriented learning experiences include
92 rigorous industry credentialing, as defined in Code Section 20-2-326, if such rigorous
93 industry credentialing has been created or endorsed by Georgia employers.

94 (2) Subject to specific appropriations by the General Assembly, the Department of
95 Education is directed to assemble and develop instructional resources and materials
96 concerning employability and career readiness skills, career exploration, and career
97 oriented learning experiences. The Department of Education shall make such
98 instructional resources and materials available to public schools and local school systems
99 in this state.

100 (3) The minimum course of study to be prescribed by the State Board of Education
101 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be ready for implementation not later
102 than July 1, 2024."

103

SECTION 5.

104 Said chapter is further amended in Part 3, relating to educational programs, by revising Code
105 Section 20-2-156, relating to program for limited-English-proficient students, as follows:

106 "20-2-156.

107 (a) The State Board of Education shall create a program for limited-English-proficient
108 students whose native language is not English, subject to appropriation by the General
109 Assembly. The purpose of this program is to assist such students to develop proficiency
110 in the English language, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing, sufficient to
111 perform effectively at the currently assigned grade level. The state board shall prescribe
112 such rules and regulations regarding eligibility criteria and standards as may be needed to
113 carry out the provisions of this Code section. The state board shall also prescribe rules and
114 regulations regarding community outreach efforts by local school systems to ensure that
115 limited-English-proficient students and their parents and guardians are provided
116 information regarding the program. This program may also be referred to as the English
117 for speakers of other languages (ESOL) program.

118 (b) The State Board of Education shall establish standards for foreign language interpreters
119 working with students in educational settings. Such standards shall include, but shall not
120 be limited to:

121 (1) Demonstrated proficiency in English and the target language in listening, speaking,
122 and reading domains; and

123 (2) Familiarity with legal concepts related to and service requirements of Part B of the
124 federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the federal
125 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as well as standards for the use of remote interpreter services,
126 including, but not limited to, the conditions under which remote interpreter services may
127 be used to provide high-quality interpreter services.

128 (c) Each local school system shall provide:

129 (1) Information concerning the availability of interpretation services at IEP team
130 meetings;

131 (2) An explanation of how parents can request an interpreter;

132 (3) Notice that a parent has the right to request that the interpreter serve no other role in
133 the IEP meeting than as an interpreter, and that the district should make reasonable efforts
134 to fulfill this request;

135 (4) A point of contact to address any questions or complaints about interpretation
136 services; and

137 (5) For each IEP meeting, the following information on the recorded minutes of such
138 meeting:

139 (A) Whether a parent requested an interpreter, had previously requested interpretation
140 services, or had otherwise indicated that an interpreter was necessary to ensure
141 meaningful parental involvement in the IEP meeting;

142 (B) The language for interpretation;

143 (C) Whether a parent provided an interpreter of his her own choosing or a qualified
144 in-person interpreter, a digital language service tool, or a language accessibility phone
145 line was provided; and

146 (D) Whether a parent requested that the interpreter serve no other role in the IEP
147 meeting and, if so, whether the district granted that request.

148 (d) Each local school system shall engage in community outreach efforts directed toward
149 limited-English-proficient students and their parents and guardians. Such efforts shall
150 comply with the rules and regulations prescribed by the State Board of Education pursuant
151 to subsection (a) of this Code section."

152 **SECTION 6.**

153 Said chapter is further amended in Article 11, relating to public school property and facilities,
154 by adding a new part to read as follows:

155 "Part 4

156 20-2-590.

157 (a) This Code section shall be known and may be cited as 'Alyssa's Law.'

158 (b)(1) Not later than July 1, 2026, each local education agency, as that term is defined
159 in Code Section 20-2-167.1, shall implement a mobile panic alert system capable of
160 connecting disparate emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination
161 between local and state law enforcement and first responder agencies. Such system shall
162 be known as the 'Alyssa's Alert' and shall integrate with existing technology found in
163 each local public safety answering point infrastructure to transmit 9-1-1 calls and mobile
164 activations.

165 (2) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection, each local
166 education agency may implement additional strategies or systems to ensure real-time

167 coordination between multiple first responder agencies in the event of a school security
168 emergency.

169 (3) A local education agency shall not be required to procure or implement new or
170 additional capabilities if, as of July 1, 2025, such local education agency has already
171 implemented a mobile panic alert system with capabilities which meet the requirements
172 of paragraph (1) of this subsection.

173 (c) Not later than December 1, 2025, the Department of Administrative Services shall
174 conduct market research in consultation with the State School Superintendent and the
175 Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency to identify whether an
176 existing competitive source of supply is available for a system that satisfies the
177 requirements of paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of this Code section from multiple vendors
178 for use by local education agencies. If no existing source of supply exists, the Department
179 of Administrative Services shall issue a competitive solicitation for such source of supply
180 no later than January 1, 2026."

181 **SECTION 7.**

182 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 20-2-1015, relating to instructional
183 materials and content in digital or electronic format and funding, by adding new subsections
184 to read as follows:

185 "(c) Subject to specific appropriations by the General Assembly, starting July 1, 2025, the
186 State Board of Education shall annually provide for free to local boards of education a
187 web-based application for a taxpayer receipt and budget simulator as provided for in Code
188 Section 20-2-142.1, provided that:

189 (1) The taxpayer receipt shall:

- 190 (A) Allow a user to estimate the individual amount of major tax categories, including,
191 but not limited to, income, sales, alcohol, tobacco, and motor vehicle fuel tax;
192 (B) Estimate how the taxes an individual pays are allocated to each major expenditure
193 category; and
194 (C) Estimate the income and sales taxes paid by the individual based on their income
195 and age; and
196 (2) The budget simulator shall:
197 (A) Produce an estimated state budget based on variables entered by the user; such
198 variables shall include adjustments in major expenditure categories, adjustments in
199 major tax revenue categories, implementation of various policy options, and the year
200 of the budget estimate; and
201 (B) Provide visual feedback on the effects of the user adjustments.
202 (d) The Department of Education shall:
203 (1) House the application provided for in subsection (c) of this Code section on its public
204 website;
205 (2) Work with the Office of Planning and Budget to obtain the proper budget information
206 to be used in the application provided for in subsection (c) of this Code section; and
207 (3) Coordinate with the Georgia Technology Authority and the Department of
208 Administrative Services to implement the requirements of this Code section and to
209 develop competitive bidding requirements in accordance with and as permitted by
210 Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 50."

211 Article 33 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
212 "Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Act," is amended by revising subsections (a) and (f) of
213 Code Section 20-2-2116, relating to amount of scholarship and method of payments, as
214 follows:

215 "(a) The maximum scholarship granted a scholarship student pursuant to this article shall
216 be an amount equivalent to the costs of the educational program that would have been
217 provided for the student in the resident school system as calculated under Code
218 Section 20-2-161 and, if a scholarship student has an Individualized Education
219 Program (IEP), based upon services specified in the Individualized Education Program in
220 place at the time of the most recent enrollment count, as described in Code
221 Section 20-2-160-; provided, however, that in the case of a student whose first Individual
222 Education Program was expedited as provided for in subparagraph (a)(3)(A) of Code
223 Section 20-2-2114 but was not in effect at the time of the most recent enrollment count, the
224 initial calculation of the maximum scholarship amount shall be based upon services
225 specified in the Individualized Education Program in place at the time such Individualized
226 Education Program takes effect. Such initial calculation shall be revised based upon
227 services specified in the Individualized Education Program in place at the time of the next
228 enrollment count. This shall not include any federal funds."

229 "(f) Payment to the parents ~~must~~ shall be made by individual warrant made payable to the
230 student's parent. The department shall electronically deposit payments that have been
231 restrictively endorsed by parents into the account of such school; provided, however, that
232 in the event an electronic deposit cannot be made, such payment may be ~~and~~ mailed by the
233 department to the participating school of the parent's choice, and the parent shall
234 restrictively endorse the warrant to the participating school for deposit into the account of
235 such school."

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SECTION 8.

237 Chapter 18 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state printing
238 and documents, is amended in Code Section 50-18-160 by deleting "and" at the end of
239 subparagraph (d)(12)(C), replacing the period at the end of subparagraph (d)(12)(D) with
240 "; and", and adding a new subparagraph to read as follows:

241 "(E) By the Department of Early Care and Learning for purposes authorized in Chapter
242 1A of Title 20."

243 **SECTION 9.**

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