

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth offered the following substitute to SB 123:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 12 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to effectiveness of educational programs, so as to require the
3 administration, with state funding, of a nationally recognized career and college readiness
4 assessment and an assessment leading to a nationally recognized workforce credential to
5 public school students in grades 11 and 12 who choose to participate; to provide for the
6 Department of Education to coordinate such assessment administration with local school
7 superintendents and school principals and to ensure that students transitioning to and from
8 the Department of Juvenile Justice are included; to require the administration of a nationally
9 recognized multiple-aptitude battery assessment that measures developed abilities and helps
10 predict future academic and occupational success in the military to public school students in
11 grades 11 and 12 who choose to participate; to prohibit the use of assessment results in
12 education accountability programs; to provide for parents and guardians to opt their children
13 out of participating in such assessments; to provide for contingent effectiveness regarding
14 state funded assessments; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
15 other purposes.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

17 **SECTION 1.**

18 Part 12 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
19 relating to effectiveness of educational programs, is amended by adding a new Code section
20 to read as follows:

21 "20-2-281.2.

22 (a)(1) Each public school and local school system with students in grades 11 and 12 and
23 the Department of Juvenile Justice shall select and administer, with state funding, a
24 nationally recognized career and college readiness assessment and an assessment leading
25 to a nationally recognized workforce credential to public school students enrolled in
26 grades 11 and 12 who choose to participate. The assessment administration shall occur
27 during normal school hours and shall be school wide and system wide. All students in
28 grades 11 and 12 shall have the opportunity to participate in the administrations of such
29 assessments.

30 (2) The Department of Education shall coordinate with local school superintendents and
31 school principals, or their equivalent, regarding the timing of the administration of the
32 assessments provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section and to ensure that students
33 transitioning to and from the Department of Juvenile Justice are included in such
34 administrations.

35 (b) Each public school and local school system with students enrolled in grades 11 and 12
36 shall select and administer to public school students enrolled in grades 11 and 12 who
37 choose to participate, a nationally recognized multiple-aptitude battery assessment that
38 measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success
39 in the military. Such administration shall occur during normal school hours and shall be
40 made available school wide and system wide. All students enrolled in grades 11 and 12

41 shall have the opportunity to participate at least once in the administration of such
42 assessment.

43 (c) No result of any assessment provided for in subsection (a) or (b) of this Code section
44 shall be part of any education accountability assessment program provided for in Article
45 2 of Chapter 14 of this title.

46 (d) In the event that a parent or guardian of a student elects for their child not to participate
47 in the administration of an assessment provided for in subsection (a) or (b) of this Code
48 section, such student's school or school system shall not administer the assessment to that
49 student."

50

SECTION 2.

51 (a) The provisions of subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-281.2 in Section 1 of this Act shall
52 become effective only if funds sufficient to cover the direct costs of testing materials are
53 specifically appropriated for the purposes of such subsection in an appropriations Act enacted
54 by the General Assembly.

55 (b) If such funds are so appropriated, then the provisions of subsection (a) of Code Section
56 20-2-281.2 in Section 1 of this Act shall become effective on the later of:

57 (1) The date on which such appropriations Act becomes effective; or

58 (2) July 1 of the fiscal year for which such appropriations are made.

59

SECTION 3.

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