

Senate Bill 17

By: Senators Jones of the 10th, Parent of the 42nd, Jones II of the 22nd, Orrock of the 36th and Harrell of the 40th

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 a certification program for whole  
3 child model schools; to provide for reports on implementation and progress; to provide for  
4 a short title; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Unlocking the Promise Whole Child Model  
9 Schools Act."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and  
12 secondary education, is amended by revising Article 14, which is reserved, as follows:

## "ARTICLE 14

20-2-640.

As used in this article, the term:

(1) 'Community organization' means a nonprofit organization that has been in existence for three years or more and has a verifiable record of working consistently with the community surrounding a school for which whole child model school certification is being sought on education and other issues.

(2) 'Community partner' means a community stakeholder, including but not limited to parents, parent organizations, students, student organizations, early learning programs, community organizations, businesses, civic engagement organizations, local governmental agencies, local school employee organizations, institutions of higher education, and the like.

(3) 'Department' means the Department of Education.

(4) 'School' means a public school, including local charter schools, state charter schools, and state chartered special schools.

(5) 'State board' means the State Board of Education.

(6) 'Whole child model school certification' means certification by the State School Superintendent that a school has successfully implemented a sustainable whole child model school plan to promote and ensure effective coordination of wraparound services and supports for the school and provide for processes to actively engage community partners in meaningful ways.

~~Reserved.~~

20-2-641.

(a) The state board shall establish a program to provide whole child model school certification to each school that successfully implements a sustainable whole child model

38 school plan which is developed in consultation with community partners to promote and  
39 ensure effective coordination of wraparound services and supports for the school and  
40 provide for processes to actively engage community partners in meaningful ways.

41 (b) The state board shall promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of  
42 this article. The state board may require that certified whole child model schools shall, as  
43 a condition of retaining such certification, periodically provide a report to the state board  
44 and the department describing efforts to implement a whole child model school plan at  
45 such school and the impact of the transition to a whole child model school on participating  
46 students and the school community. The report shall be made publicly available on the  
47 website of the certified whole child model school. The state board shall determine what  
48 information shall be included in such report.

49 (c) The department shall develop and post on its publicly available website guidelines and  
50 other relevant materials relating to whole child model schools and the provisions of this  
51 article. Reports submitted by certified whole child model schools pursuant to  
52 subsection (b) of this Code section shall be evaluated by the department. Beginning with  
53 the 2022-2023 school year, no later than October 31 of each year the department shall  
54 report to the Governor, the House Education Committee and the Senate Committee on  
55 Education and Youth, and the state board regarding the whole child model school  
56 certification program. Such report shall be made publicly available on the department's  
57 website."

58 **SECTION 3.**

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