

Senate Bill 357

By: Senators Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Tillery of the 19th, Walker III of the 20th, Harbison of the 15th, Rhett of the 33rd and others

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Part 13 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to organization of schools and systems under the "Quality Basic
3 Education Act," so as to provide that a military student may attend any public school in the
4 state, subject to certain conditions regarding availability and transportation; to provide for
5 reallocation of certain funding from resident school systems to receiving school systems; to
6 revise a definition and provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal
7 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Part 13 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
11 relating to organization of schools and systems under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is
12 amended by revising Code Section 20-2-295, relating to military student transfers, as
13 follows:

14 "20-2-295.

15 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

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16 (1) 'Military service member' means an active duty member or a deployed reserve
17 member of the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Marine Corps,
18 United States Air Force, United States Space Force, United States Coast Guard, or United
19 States National Guard whose state of legal residence is Georgia, who lists Georgia as his
20 or her home of record, or who within the previous 12 months has received official
21 military orders of assignment to an installation located in Georgia.

22 (2) 'Military student' ~~'military student'~~ means a dependent school aged child of a military
23 service member ~~who lives on a military base or off-base in military housing.~~

24 (3) 'Parent' means a person who has legal authority to act on behalf of a military student
25 as a natural or adoptive parent or a legal guardian.

26 (4) 'Receiving school system' means the local school system into which a military
27 student transfers pursuant to this Code section.

28 (5) 'Resident school system' means the local school system in which a military student
29 would be enrolled based on his or her residence.

30 (b)(1) Beginning in school year ~~2017-2018~~ 2022-2023, a military student in this state
31 shall be allowed to attend any public school of his or her parent's choosing that is located
32 within the school system in which the military base or off-base military housing in which
33 the student resides is located this state, provided space is available for additional
34 enrollment. The parent shall assume the responsibility for and cost of transportation of
35 the student to and from ~~the~~ any public school other than the public school in which the
36 student would be enrolled based on his or her residence.

37 (2) Each receiving school system shall report each military student who has transferred
38 to such receiving school system pursuant to this subsection for purposes of funding to the
39 Department of Education. State Quality Basic Education Program funds, including the
40 local five mill share, allotted to the resident school system shall be reallocated to the
41 receiving school system in an amount correlated to the number of transferred military
42 students.

43 (c) Each local school system ~~in which a military base or off-base military housing is~~
44 ~~located~~ shall:

45 (1) Establish a universal, streamlined process available to all military students to
46 implement the transfer requirements of this Code section; and

47 (2) Annually notify prior to each school year the parents of each military student who
48 currently resides in such local school system by letter, by electronic means, or by such
49 other reasonable means in a timely manner of the options available to the parent under
50 this Code section."

51

SECTION 2.

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