

The House Committee on Education offers the following substitute to SB 603:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 11 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to public school property and facilities, so as to provide for an outdoor learning
3 spaces pilot program; to provide for a pilot program evaluation and report; to provide for
4 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 11 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 public school property and facilities, is amended by adding a new part to read as follows:

9 Part 4

10 20-2-590.

11 (a) The Department of Education is authorized to establish a pilot program, beginning in
12 the 2022-2023 school year, to provide for the development and study of outdoor learning
13 spaces on elementary and secondary school property. The purpose of the pilot program

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14 shall be to determine whether and how to implement best practices and design standards
15 for outdoor learning spaces.

16 (b) The Department of Education is authorized to select elementary or secondary schools
17 with sufficient existing or potential outdoor learning spaces for participation in the pilot
18 program. Private, nonprofit, and local school system funding may be utilized by the pilot
19 schools for community engagement, school grounds design support, and capital
20 construction costs. The local school board for the pilot schools shall agree to implement
21 a program to incorporate outdoor learning spaces into the existing curriculum and to
22 continue to provide such program for a period no shorter than three years.

23 (c) The Department of Education shall provide for an evaluation regarding the success and
24 impact of the pilot program upon completion of the third year of the pilot program and
25 shall report the results of such evaluation to the House Committee on Education and the
26 Senate Education and Youth Committee."

27 **SECTION 2.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.