

Senate Bill 220

By: Senators Payne of the 54th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Mullis of the 53rd, Summers of the 13th, Dugan of the 30th and others

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, so as to
2 provide for a mandatory course of instruction in financial literacy for students in eleventh or
3 twelfth grade; to require the State Board of Education to establish content standards for such
4 course; to allow for such course to count toward a mathematics, social studies, or elective
5 unit of credit requirement for graduation; to require the Professional Standards Commission
6 to establish appropriate requirements and procedures to provide for qualifications for
7 teachers of such course; to provide for a financial literacy endorsement by the Professional
8 Standards Commission; to create the Georgia Commission on Civics Education; to provide
9 for membership, filling of vacancies, terms, officers, duties, meetings, and reimbursement
10 of members of the commission; to provide for a short title; to provide for legislative intent;
11 to provide for automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective
12 date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

S. B. 220

- 1 -

14
15

PART I
SECTION 1-1.

16 Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, is amended in Part
17 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 2, relating to competencies and core curriculum under the "Quality
18 Basic Education Act," by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

19 "20-2-149.4.

20 (a) The State Board of Education shall adopt content standards for a minimum course of
21 instruction in financial literacy to be completed by students in eleventh or twelfth grade.

22 (b) Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, each local board of education shall require
23 all students, as a condition of graduation, during their eleventh or twelfth grade years to
24 complete at least a half-credit course in financial literacy which implements the minimum
25 course of instruction based on the content standards prescribed pursuant to subsection (a)
26 of this Code section. Such course of instruction may be provided within the framework of
27 existing coursework offered by a local school system. Such course of instruction shall be
28 eligible to count toward a mathematics, social studies, or elective unit of credit requirement
29 for graduation."

30

SECTION 1-2.

31 Said chapter is further amended in Subpart 1 of Part 6 of Article 6, relating to certificated
32 professional personnel, by adding a new paragraph to subsection (b) of Code Section
33 20-2-200, relating to regulation of certificated professional personnel by Professional
34 Standards Commission, rules and regulations, and fees, to read as follows:

35 "(7) No later than January 1, 2023, the Professional Standards Commission shall
36 establish appropriate requirements and procedures to ensure that educators meeting one
37 or more of the following requirements shall be deemed appropriately licensed to teach
38 financial literacy:

- 39 (A) Holds a renewable certificate at the secondary level in business, economics,
40 mathematics, family and consumer science, or marketing;
41 (B) Holds a special education certificate with social science content designations; or
42 (C) Obtains a secondary level teaching endorsement in financial literacy, as designated
43 by the Professional Standards Commission."

44 **SECTION 1-3.**

45 Said chapter is further amended in said subpart by adding a new Code section to read as
46 follows:

47 "20-2-209.

48 (a) No later than December 30, 2023, the Professional Standards Commission shall create
49 a financial literacy endorsement for teachers trained in the content standards for financial
50 literacy adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to Code Section 20-2-149.4.

51 (b) The Professional Standards Commission shall establish measures to assess the fidelity
52 of teacher training and implementation for teachers who receive the financial literacy
53 endorsement."

54 **PART II**

55 **SECTION 2-1.**

56 Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, is amended in
57 Article 2 of Chapter 14, relating to education accountability assessment programs, by adding
58 a new part to read as follows:

59

"Part 1060 20-14-95.61 (a) This part shall be known and may be cited as the 'The Georgia Civics Renewal Act.'62 (b) There is created the Georgia Commission on Civics Education.

63 (c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the commission shall promote and enhance
64 the education of students on the importance of civic involvement in a constitutional
65 republic, the study of state and local government among the state's citizenry, the
66 importance of civic engagement and public service, and communication and collaboration
67 among organizations in the state that conduct civics education.

68 (d)(1) The commission shall consist of 17 members comprising three members from the
69 Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, with at least one member each from the
70 Senate majority caucus and minority caucus; three members from the House of
71 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with at least
72 one member each from the House of Representatives majority caucus and minority
73 caucus; one Justice of the Supreme Court; the Attorney General or his or her designee;
74 the State School Superintendent or his or her designee; one representative from the
75 Georgia Chamber of Commerce; one representative from the Metro Atlanta Chamber of
76 Commerce; one representative from the Association County Commissioners of Georgia;
77 one representative from the Georgia Municipal Association; and four members appointed
78 by the Governor, with one representative from the Georgia Center for Civic Engagement,
79 two former or current government or civics teachers, and one other individual.

80 (2) Vacancies in the commission shall be filled the same as the original appointments.

81 (3)(A) Legislative members of the commission shall serve two-year terms concurrent
82 with their terms as members of the General Assembly.

83 (B) Nonlegislative members of the commission shall serve two-year terms concurrent
84 with those terms of legislative members of the commission.

85 (e) The Governor shall designate the chairperson of the commission. The chairperson
86 shall serve as such concurrent with his or her term as a member of the commission.

87 (f)(1) The commission shall periodically review the conditions, needs, issues, and
88 problems related to civics education in Georgia schools, including, but not limited to,
89 career, technical, and agricultural education (CTAE) instruction for the government and
90 public administration and the law, public safety, corrections, and security pathways, and
91 shall issue annually a report on the same to the General Assembly, and recommend any
92 action or legislation which the commission deems necessary or appropriate.

93 (2) The commission may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it
94 may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its
95 powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this Code
96 section. The commission shall meet upon the call of the chairperson. The commission
97 shall meet not less than two nor more than four times annually.

98 (3) The legislative members of the commission shall receive the allowances provided for
99 in Code Section 28-1-8. Any citizen members shall receive a daily expense allowance
100 in the amount specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21, as well as the mileage
101 or transportation allowance authorized for state employees. Any members of the
102 commission who are state officials, other than legislative members, and state employees
103 shall receive no compensation for their services on the commission, but they shall be
104 reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties as members
105 of the commission in the same manner as they are reimbursed for expenses in their
106 capacities as state officials or employees. The funds necessary for the reimbursement of
107 the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and state employees shall
108 come from funds appropriated to the Department of Education for this purpose. All other
109 funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Code section shall come from funds
110 appropriated to the House of Representatives and the Senate. The expenses and

111 allowances authorized by this paragraph shall not be received by members of the
112 commission for more than four days annually.

113 (g) The head of the social studies program of the Department of Education shall report
114 annually to the commission regarding the conditions, needs, issues, and problems of the
115 program. Such report shall include a statement of efforts undertaken by the Department
116 of Education to inform and encourage local school systems to recruit and utilize
117 supplemental resources from appropriate local and community organizations which
118 promote civics and civics education as among their primary purposes.

119 (h) This part shall stand repealed on December 31, 2028."

120

PART III

121

SECTION 3-1.

122 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
123 without such approval.

124

SECTION 3-2.

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