

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 4 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to financing under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide
3 for student enrollment counts for residential treatment programs; to provide for a program
4 weight and a teacher-student ratio in the Quality Basic Education Formula for residential
5 treatment programs; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

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9 Part 4 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to financing under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by revising
11 subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-160, relating to determination of enrollment by
12 institutional program, as follows:

13 "(a) The State Board of Education shall designate the specific dates upon which two counts
14 of students enrolled in each instructional program authorized under this article shall be
15 made each school year and by which the counts shall be reported to the Department of
16 Education. The initial enrollment count shall be made after October 1 but prior to
17 November 17 and the final enrollment count after March 1 but prior to May 1. The report
18 shall indicate the student's specific assigned program for each one-sixth segment of the
19 school day on the designated reporting date. No program shall be indicated for a student
20 for any one-sixth segment of the school day that the student is assigned to a study hall; a
21 noncredit course; a course recognized under this article or by state board policy as an
22 enrichment course, except a driver education course; a course which requires participation
23 in an extracurricular activity for which enrollment is on a competitive basis; a course in
24 which the student serves as a student assistant to a teacher, in a school office, or in the

25 media center, except when such placement is an approved work site of a recognized career
26 or vocational program; an individual study course for which no outline of course objectives
27 is prepared in writing prior to the beginning of the course; a course taken through the
28 Georgia Virtual School pursuant to Code Section 20-2-319.1; or any other course or
29 activity so designated by the state board. For the purpose of this Code section, the term
30 'enrichment course' means a course which does not dedicate a major portion of the class
31 time toward the development and enhancement of one or more student competencies as
32 adopted by the state board under Code Section 20-2-140. A program shall not be indicated
33 for a student for any one-sixth segment of the school day for which the student is not
34 enrolled in an instructional program or has not attended a class or classes within the
35 preceding ten days; nor shall a program be indicated for a student for any one-sixth
36 segment of the school day for which the student is charged tuition or fees or is required to
37 provide materials or equipment beyond those authorized pursuant to Code Section
38 20-2-133. A student who is enrolled in an eligible institution under the program
39 established in Code Section 20-2-161.1 may be counted for the high school program for
40 only that portion of the day that the student is attending the high school for those segments
41 that are eligible to be counted under this subsection. The state board shall adopt such
42 regulations and criteria as necessary to ensure objective and true counts of students in state
43 approved instructional programs. The state board shall also establish criteria by which
44 students shall be counted as resident or nonresident students, including specific
45 circumstances which may include, but not be limited to, students attending another local
46 school system under court order or under the terms of a contract between two local school
47 systems. If a local school system has a justifiable reason, it may seek authority from the
48 state board to shift full-time equivalent program counts from the designated date to a
49 requested alternate date. For residential treatment programs, student enrollment counts
50 shall be based on a rolling average in which monthly student counts are reported to the
51 state board and an average student enrollment count for such period is calculated for
52 purposes of the initial and final enrollment counts reported pursuant to this subsection."

53 SECTION 2.

54 Said part is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-161, relating
55 to the Quality Basic Education Formula, as follows:

56 "(b) As the cost of instructional programs varies depending upon the teacher-student ratios
57 and specific services typically required to address the special needs of students enrolled,

58 state authorized instructional programs shall have the following program weights and
 59 teacher-student ratios:

- 60 (1) Kindergarten program. 1.6587
 61 weight and
 62 1 to 15
 63 ratio
- 64 (2) Kindergarten early intervention program. 2.0496
 65 weight and
 66 1 to 11
 67 ratio
- 68 (3) Primary grades program (1-3). 1.2855
 69 weight and
 70 1 to 17
 71 ratio
- 72 (4) Primary grades early intervention program (1-3). 1.8029
 73 weight and
 74 1 to 11
 75 ratio
- 76 (5) Upper elementary grades program (4-5) 1.0323
 77 weight and
 78 1 to 23
 79 ratio
- 80 (6) Upper elementary grades early intervention program (4-5). 1.7971
 81 weight and
 82 1 to 11
 83 ratio
- 84 (7) Middle grades program (6-8)... 1.0162
 85 weight and
 86 1 to 23
 87 ratio
- 88 (8) Middle school program (6-8) as defined in Code Section 20-2-290. 1.1213
 89 weight and
 90 1 to 20
 91 ratio

92	(9) High school general education program (9-12)	1.0000
93		weight and
94		1 to 23
		ratio
95	(10) Vocational laboratory program (9-12)	1.1847
96		weight and
97		1 to 20
98		ratio
99	(11) Program for persons with disabilities:	
100	Category I.	2.3940
101		weight and
102		1 to 8
103		ratio
104	(12) Program for persons with disabilities:	
105	Category II.	2.8156
106		weight and
107		1 to 6.5
108		ratio
109	(13) Program for persons with disabilities:	
110	Category III.	3.5868
111		weight and
112		1 to 5
113		ratio
114	(14) Program for persons with disabilities:	
115	Category IV.	5.8176
116		weight and
117		1 to 3
118		ratio
119	(15) Program for persons with disabilities:	
120	Category V.	2.4583
121		weight and
122		1 to 8
123		ratio

124	(16) Program for intellectually gifted students:	
125	Category VI.	1.6673
126		weight and
127		1 to 12
128		ratio
129	(17) Remedial education program	1.3128
130		weight and
131		1 to 15
132		ratio
133	(18) Alternative education program	1.6025
134		weight and
135		1 to 15
136		ratio
137	(19) English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) program	2.5306
138		weight and
139		1 to 7
140		ratio
141	<u>(20) Residential treatment program</u>	<u>3.5337</u>
142		<u>weight and</u>
143		<u>1 to 5</u>
144		<u>ratio"</u>

SECTION 3.

145
 146 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.