

House Bill 392

By: Representatives Joyce of the 1st and Franklin of the 39th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-306 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 honors program and residential high school program operated by the State Board of
3 Education, so as to provide that students who live in Georgia but attend private high school
4 outside of Georgia may participate in the honors program if they otherwise qualify; to
5 provide for equal rights for all such students to participate in the honors program; to provide
6 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 20-2-306 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the honors
10 program and residential high school program operated by the State Board of Education, is
11 amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read
12 as follows:

13 "(a) The State Board of Education is authorized to inaugurate an honors program for
14 students in the public and private high schools of this state and for students who reside full
15 time in this state but attend private school outside of this state who have manifested
16 exceptional abilities or unique potentials or who have made exceptional academic
17 achievements. This program shall be conducted during summer months between normal
18 school-year terms at institutions of higher learning or other appropriate centers within this
19 state with facilities adequate to provide challenging opportunities for advanced study and
20 accomplishments by such students. The student honors program shall be implemented and
21 operated in accordance with criteria established by the state board, and operating costs shall
22 be paid by the state board from funds made available for this purpose by the General
23 Assembly. Such criteria shall ensure that students residing full time in this state and
24 attending private schools, whether such private schools are located within or outside this
25 state, shall be afforded the same opportunity as students attending public schools in this
26 state to attend such honors program. The state board is authorized to enter into cooperative

1 agreements with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia for operating
2 and sharing the costs of such programs."

3 **SECTION 2.**

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