

House Bill 476

By: Representatives Taylor of the 134th, Hugley of the 133rd, Squires of the 78th, Stanley of the 49th, Mangham of the 75th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to prohibit the permanent expulsion of students
3 under the age of 16 years old; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and
4 for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
8 secondary education, is amended by striking Code Section 20-2-751.3 and inserting a new
9 Code Section 20-2-751.3 to read as follows:

10 "20-2-751.3.

11 ~~Reserved.~~

12 (a) The General Assembly recognizes the need for:

13 (1) Providing the children and youth of Georgia with the opportunity to receive a quality
14 education;

15 (2) Maintaining a safe and orderly environment in public schools;

16 (3) Reassigning students to in-school suspension or alternative educational settings rather
17 than suspending or expelling them from public school; and

18 (4) Suspending or expelling students from school when otherwise necessary to uphold
19 the policies of this state.

20 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, local boards of education
21 are prohibited from permanently expelling students under the age of 16 years old. Local
22 boards of education shall have the authority to expel a student beyond the current school
23 quarter or semester, without permanently expelling such students, while ensuring that the
24 written decision providing for expulsion states and explains the nature and length of such
25 punishment."

