

House Bill 99

By: Representatives Barnes of the 84th, Post 2, Ashe of the 42nd, Post 2, Coleman of the 65th, Dodson of the 84th, Post 1, Buckner of the 82nd 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 provide for state payment of all or a portion of
3 student loans of certain teachers teaching in high priority schools; to provide a definition; to
4 provide for the maximum amount of such payments and the maximum time period for such
5 payments; to provide for construction; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
9 secondary education, is amended by inserting a new Code section to be designated Code
10 Section 20-2-212.4 to read as follows:

11 "20-2-212.4.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'high priority school' means any school which
13 has received a rating of D or F on the established absolute achievement standard in
14 accordance with Code Section 20-14-33.

15 (b) Subject to appropriation of funds by the General Assembly, any teacher who begins
16 a Georgia teaching career in a high priority school or relocates to teach in a high priority
17 school after previous service in another school is eligible for payment by the state of all
18 or a portion of that teacher's student loans. The maximum payment for each year that such
19 a teacher teaches in a high priority school shall be \$2,500.00, and the maximum period of
20 eligibility shall be four years; provided, however, that this Code section does not authorize
21 any payment exceeding a teacher's total remaining indebtedness for his or her
22 postsecondary education.

23 (c) The payments provided by this Code section shall be in addition to the teacher's state
24 salary, local supplement, any increase in salary in accordance with Code Sections
25 20-2-212.1, 20-2-212.2, and 20-2-212.3, or any other salary increase. This subsection shall

1 not be construed to require or prohibit any increase in a local supplement payable to a
2 teacher who teaches in a high priority school.
3 (d) This Code section shall not be construed to amend the provisions of Article 2 of
4 Chapter 14 of this title, relating to education accountability."

5 **SECTION 2.**

6 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.