

House Bill 407

By: Representatives Buckner of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Dodson of the 84<sup>th</sup>, Post 1 and Barnes of the 84<sup>th</sup>,  
Post 2

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 a division of school board  
3 mediation; to provide for duties of such division; to provide for requests for mediation,  
4 review of practices and history, letters of recommendations, and rules and regulations; to  
5 provide for related matters; 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 20-2-989.2 to read as follows:

11 "20-2-989.2.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'mediation' shall mean techniques of alternative  
13 dispute resolution that attempt to assist the parties to a dispute to reach a resolution of the  
14 dispute.

15 (b) The commission shall create a division of school board mediation, which shall be  
16 charged with mediating conflicts among members of local boards of education. Upon the  
17 request of any member of a local board of education or of any member of the state board,  
18 the division will review the practices of a local board of education and the history of any  
19 particular dispute and recommend actions that might be helpful in resolving a conflict or  
20 conflicts, including, but not limited to, continuing education for members of the local board  
21 of education in parliamentary procedure, conflict resolution, and school finance. The  
22 division shall issue a letter stating such recommendations to the local board of education.

23 (c) The commission is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for the  
24 implementation of this Code section, including, but not limited to, rules for dismissing  
25 frivolous requests."

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**SECTION 2.**

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.