

House Bill 962

By: Representative Mangham of the 62<sup>nd</sup>

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."

1 **SECTION 2.**

2 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
3 without such approval.

4 **SECTION 3.**

5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.