

The House Committee on Education offers the following substitute to SB 248:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, so as to
2 revise provisions relating to payment of fees for advanced placement tests; to revise a
3 provision relating to verification of attendance; to revise a provision relating to the release
4 of questions from certain tests; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date;
5 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, is amended by
9 striking subsection (g) of Code Section 20-2-161.1, relating to enrollment in postsecondary
10 courses, and inserting in its place a new subsection (g) to read as follows:

11 "~~(g) The department shall pay the fees charged for advanced placement tests taken by any~~
12 ~~eligible high school student who successfully completes an approved advanced placement~~
13 ~~course according to rules set by the State Board of Education subject to appropriation by~~
14 ~~the General Assembly. The local high school principal shall certify to the department the~~
15 ~~number of students taking the advanced placement tests, the total fees charged, and such~~
16 ~~additional information as the department requires regarding advanced placement tests, and~~
17 ~~the department shall make payments directly to the testing service from funds dedicated~~
18 ~~to this purpose within the secondary option grant account."~~

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 Said title is further amended in Code Section 20-2-281, relating to effectiveness assessment,
21 by striking subsection (f) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

22 "(f) Under rules adopted by the State Board of Education, the Department of Education
23 shall, subject to appropriations by the General Assembly, release some or all of the
24 questions and ~~answer keys~~ answers to each criterion-referenced competency test
25 administered under subsection (a) of this Code section ~~and each end-of-course test~~
26 ~~administered under subsection (e) of this Code section~~ after the last time the instrument is

1 administered for a school year. ~~To ensure a valid bank of questions for use each year, the~~
 2 ~~department is not required to release a question that is being field tested and was not used~~
 3 ~~to compute the student's score on the instrument."~~

4 SECTION 3.

5 Said title is further amended by striking Code Section 20-2-697, relating to cooperation of
 6 school officials regarding attendance, and inserting in its place a new Code Section 20-2-697
 7 to read as follows:

8 "20-2-697.

9 (a) Visiting teachers and attendance officers shall receive the cooperation and assistance
 10 of all teachers and principals of public schools in the local school systems within which
 11 they are appointed to serve. It shall be the duty of the principals or local school site
 12 administrators and of the teachers of all public schools to report, in writing, to the visiting
 13 teacher or attendance officer of the local school system the names, ages, and residences of
 14 all students in attendance at their schools and classes within 30 days after the beginning of
 15 the school term or terms and to make such other reports of attendance in their schools or
 16 classes as may be required by rule or regulation of the State Board of Education. All public
 17 schools shall keep daily records of attendance, verified by the teachers certifying such
 18 records. Such reports shall be open to inspection by the visiting teacher, attendance officer,
 19 or duly authorized representative at any time during the school day. Any such attendance
 20 records and reports which identify students by name shall be used only for the purpose of
 21 providing necessary attendance information required by the state board or by law, except
 22 with the permission of the parent or guardian of a child, pursuant to the subpoena of a court
 23 of competent jurisdiction, or for verification of attendance by the Department of ~~Public~~
 24 ~~Safety~~ Motor Vehicle Safety for the purposes set forth in subsection (a.1) of Code Section
 25 40-5-22. Such attendance records shall also be maintained in a format which does not
 26 identify students by name, and in this format shall be a part of the data collected for the
 27 student record component of the state-wide comprehensive educational information system
 28 pursuant to subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-320.

29 (b) Any person failing to carry out the duties required by subsection (a) of this Code
 30 section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished
 31 by a fine not to exceed \$100.00.

32 (c) The provisions of this Code section shall not apply to private schools or home study
 33 programs, and enrollment and attendance information required for private schools or home
 34 study programs and penalties for failure to comply with such requirements shall be as
 35 provided in Code Section 20-2-690."

1 **SECTION 4.**

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

4 **SECTION 5.**

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