

House Bill 1048

By: Representatives Cummings of the 19<sup>th</sup>, Day of the 126<sup>th</sup>, and Holmes of the 48<sup>th</sup>, Post 1

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-142 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 prescribed courses, so as to allow the State Board of Education to prescribe the manner and  
3 grade level for certain required courses in history and government; to authorize alternative  
4 methods for certain transfer students; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 20-2-142 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to prescribed  
9 courses, is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

10 "(a)(1) All elementary and secondary schools which receive in any manner funds from  
11 the state shall provide the following course offerings in the manner and at the grade level  
12 prescribed by the State Board of Education in its quality core curriculum:

13 (A) A course of study in the background, history, and development of the federal and  
14 state governments. ~~The course in the study of federal and state governments shall be~~  
15 ~~supplemented in each high school by~~ and a study of the local Georgia county and  
16 municipal governments; and

17 (B) A course of study in the history of the United States and in the history of Georgia  
18 and in the essentials of the United States and Georgia Constitutions, including the study  
19 of American institutions and ideals.

20 (2) No student shall be eligible to receive a diploma from a high school unless such  
21 student has successfully completed the courses in history and government provided for  
22 by this subsection, except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection. For students  
23 moving to Georgia and unable to take the course or courses available to fulfill these  
24 requirements in the grade level in which such course or courses are ordinarily offered, the  
25 State Board of Education may develop alternative methods, which may include but shall

1 not be limited to an online course of study, for such students to learn about and  
2 demonstrate an adequate understanding of federal or Georgia history and government.  
3 (3) Disabled students who are otherwise eligible for a special education diploma  
4 pursuant to subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-281 shall not be denied this diploma if  
5 they have not successfully completed either or both of these courses; provided, however,  
6 that their Individualized Education Programs have not specified that the disabled students  
7 must enroll in and successfully complete both of these courses."

8 **SECTION 2.**

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

11 **SECTION 3.**

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