

Senate Resolution 850

By: Senators Hamrick of the 30th, Kemp of the 46th and Brush of the 24th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State Superintendent of Schools and the State Board of Education to study the
2 issue of developing and implementing a standard grading system for Georgia's K-12 public
3 education system; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the General Assembly adopted a joint resolution in its 2003 session creating the
5 Improvement of the HOPE Scholarship Joint Study Commission; and

6 WHEREAS, the commission and its members worked together in a cooperative and
7 nonpartisan manner to study the conditions, needs, and issues of the HOPE scholarship
8 program; and

9 WHEREAS, in the course of studying the pertinent issues, the commission learned that there
10 are as many as 26 different grading systems used in Georgia's public high schools, such that
11 there is no numeric standard for a letter grade of "B"; and

12 WHEREAS, under the HOPE scholarship program, an entering freshman must have a "B"
13 average to receive a scholarship; and

14 WHEREAS, the implementation of a standard grading system would ensure more equitable
15 treatment for Georgia's students; and

16 WHEREAS, the commission considered much testimony and information in its work, which
17 culminated in the HOPE Scholarship Joint Study Commission Report, a comprehensive,
18 informative document which details specific recommendations relating to the preservation
19 and improvement of the HOPE scholarship program; and

20 WHEREAS, one of the recommendations of the Improvement of the HOPE Scholarship Joint
21 Study Commission is that the State Superintendent of Schools and the State Board of

1 Education develop and implement a standard grading system for Georgia's K-12 public
2 education system.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY that the State
4 Superintendent of Schools and the State Board of Education are strongly urged to study the
5 issue of developing and implementing a standard grading system for Georgia's K-12 public
6 education system.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
8 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the State Superintendent of Schools and
9 the State Board of Education.