

House Bill 1068 (FLOOR SUBSTITUTE) (AM)

By: Representatives Buckner of the 109th, Smith of the 110th, Smith of the 13th, Post 2, Hugley of the 113th, and Buck of the 112th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 acceptance and allotment of federal aid and other funds for school construction, determining
3 needs, planning financing, building code, and safety inspections and recommendations, so
4 as to provide that each school building shall have at least two means of access to a public
5 street or road; to provide for the review of sites by the Department of Transportation; to
6 provide for exceptions; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 20-2-16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the acceptance
10 and allotment of federal aid and other funds for school construction, determining needs,
11 planning financing, building code, and safety inspections and recommendations, is amended
12 by striking in its entirety subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

13 "(b)(1) In order to assist the boards of education of county and independent school
14 systems, upon their request, the state board is authorized to make comprehensive studies
15 to determine the need for and the location of public school buildings, to determine the
16 safety and educational requirements of public school buildings, to plan the methods of
17 financing the cost of constructing and equipping such buildings, and to establish a code
18 of school building practices and standards.

19 (2) Unless otherwise approved by majority vote of the local board of education, each new
20 public school site in the state shall have at least two separate means of access to a public
21 street or road, only one of which may be on a developmental highway, as such term is
22 defined in Code Section 32-4-22. Provided, however, at least one of the means of access
23 to a public road or street can be a non-roadway if said non-roadway access is sufficient
24 to evacuate in a timely manner all students and school personnel in an emergency
25 situation. Prior to acquiring property for the construction of a school building, the local

1 board of education shall submit a map of the site to the Department of Transportation for
2 an on-site review and approval. The Department of Transportation shall respond in
3 writing within 30 days of the submission. Such approval shall be presumed granted if no
4 response has been received within 30 days after submission. Any property acquired prior
5 to July 1, 2004, shall be exempt from the provisions of this Code section."

6 **SECTION 2.**

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