

House Bill 1698

By: Representatives Graves of the 10th, Ashe of the 42nd, Post 2, Coleman of the 65th, Reece of the 11th, Casas of the 68th, and others

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 require providers of in-service or continuing
3 education for teachers and other professional personnel to offer such in-service or continuing
4 education online; to provide for treatment by the Professional Standards Commission; to
5 provide for use of computers and other electronic or audiovisual equipment at schools for
6 such in-service or continuing education; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
10 secondary education, is amended in Code Section 20-2-201, relating to specific course
11 requirements and in-service or continuing education requirements for teachers and other
12 professional personnel, by inserting a new subsection to be designated subsection (c) to read
13 as follows:

14 "(c) As used in this subsection, 'online' means by electronic network or Internet. Each
15 local unit of administration, regional education service agency, college or university, or
16 other organization, agency, or entity that offers in-service or continuing education for
17 professional personnel shall offer such in-service or continuing education online through
18 the Internet so that a teacher or other professional employee can take the training at a
19 location other than the location where the in-service or continuing education is conducted
20 in person. For purposes of certification or recertification, the Professional Standards
21 Commission shall treat in-service or continuing education conducted online as if such
22 in-service or continuing education had been conducted in person. Local units of
23 administration may permit professional personnel to use computers and other electronic
24 equipment available at schools for in-service or continuing education at times before and
25 after normal school hours when other professional duties are not scheduled for the
26 individual."

1 **SECTION 2.**

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.