

The House Committee on Education offers the following substitute to HB 1048:

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 rules and regulations; to authorize certain
5 exemptions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting 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~~ paragraphs (3) and (4) of this
23 subsection. For students moving to Georgia and unable to take the course or courses
24 available to fulfill these requirements in the grade level in which such course or courses
25 are ordinarily offered, the State Board of Education may develop alternative methods,
26 which may include but shall not be limited to an online course of study, for such students

1 to learn about and demonstrate an adequate understanding of federal or Georgia history
2 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 (4) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations governing the
9 required course of study in the history of Georgia and in the essentials of the Georgia
10 Constitution for students who transfer from another state after having completed the
11 eighth grade year. The State Board of Education is authorized to provide for exemptions
12 to the required course of study for students whose parent or parents serve in the armed
13 forces of the United States."

14 **SECTION 2.**

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

17 **SECTION 3.**

18 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.