

House Bill 1698 (FLOOR SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Graves of the 10th, Ashe of the 42nd, Post 2, and Coleman of the 65th

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

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

9 **SECTION 1.**

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

15 "(c) As used in this subsection, 'online' means by electronic network or Internet. Each
16 regional education service agency or college or university that offers in-service or
17 continuing education for professional personnel for certification or recertification shall
18 offer some in-service or continuing education online through the Internet or offer access
19 to equivalent in-service or continuing education online so that a teacher or other
20 professional employee can take the training at a location other than the location where the
21 in-service or continuing education is conducted in person. For purposes of certification or
22 recertification, the Professional Standards Commission shall treat in-service or continuing
23 education conducted online as if such in-service or continuing education had been
24 conducted in person. Local units of administration may permit professional personnel to
25 use computers and other electronic equipment available at schools for in-service or

1 continuing education at times before and after normal school hours when other professional
2 duties are not scheduled for the individual."

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.