

Senate Bill 149

By: Senators Schaefer of the 50th, Heath of the 31st, Cagle of the 49th, Mullis of the 53rd, Staton of the 18th 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 provide for adoption of policies and procedures
3 by local boards of education to provide information regarding school sponsored clubs and
4 extracurricular activities to parents and legal guardians and to provide an opportunity to
5 withhold permission to participate; to provide that local school systems shall comply with
6 written notification from parents and legal guardians withholding permission for
7 participation; to require written parental or legal guardian permission for membership in a
8 specific club or activity; to require annual permission for club membership and participation
9 in activities; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
13 secondary education, is amended in Article 16, relating to students, by inserting a new part
14 to be designated Part 5 to read as follows:

15 *"Part 5*

16 20-2-785.

17 (a) Each local board of education shall adopt policies and procedures for notifying parents
18 or guardians of students regarding school sponsored clubs and extracurricular activities,
19 and providing an opportunity for parents or guardians to withhold permission for a child
20 to join designated clubs or participate in designated activities. An annual notification
21 utilizing the student handbook or other appropriate method regarding school sponsored
22 clubs shall include without limitation the name of the club, mission or purpose of the club,
23 name of the club's faculty advisor, and a description of past or planned activities. A
24 similar notification regarding extracurricular activities shall include without limitation the

1 mission or purpose of the extracurricular activity, name of the faculty advisor, and a
2 description of planned programs or actions. Each local school system shall comply with the
3 written notification from a parent or guardian who has withheld permission for a child to
4 join a club or participate in an activity, and shall not allow a child to join a club or
5 participate in an activity in contravention of written notification from the child's parent or
6 guardian forbidding such club or activity.

7 (b) All clubs, programs, or extracurricular activities occurring on school property or
8 sponsored by schools, school staff, or students shall require written parental or legal
9 guardian permission for membership in each specific club or activity.

10 (c) Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, each local school system shall obtain
11 written parental or legal guardian permission for a student to participate in or be a member
12 of a school sponsored club or extracurricular activity. Each local school system shall
13 obtain this permission at the beginning of each school year."

14

SECTION 2.

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