

Senate Bill 207

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th and Zamarripa of the 36th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 12 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to the effectiveness of educational programs, so as to provide that a
3 student who does not achieve a passing score on the high school graduation test may be
4 eligible to graduate under certain conditions; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 12 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to the effectiveness of educational programs, is amended by inserting immediately
10 following Code Section 20-2-281 a new Code Section 20-2-281.1 to read as follows:

11 "20-2-281.1.

12 Notwithstanding any contrary provision, a student who does not achieve a passing score
13 on the high school graduation test provided for in subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-281
14 may be eligible to graduate if the student does all of the following:

- 15 (1) Takes the graduation test in each subject area in which the student did not achieve
16 a passing score at least one time every school year after the school year in which the
17 student first takes the graduation test;
- 18 (2) Completes remediation opportunities provided to the student by the student's school;
- 19 (3) Maintains a school attendance rate of at least 95 percent with excused absences not
20 counting against the student's attendance;
- 21 (4) Maintains at least a 'C' average or the equivalent in the courses comprising the credits
22 specifically required for graduation by rule of the board of education;
- 23 (5) Obtains a written recommendation from a teacher of the student in each subject area
24 in which the student has not achieved a passing score. The recommendation must:
- 25 (A) Be concurred in by the principal of the student's school; and

- 1 (B) Be supported by documentation that the student has attained the academic standard
2 in the subject area based upon:
- 3 (i) Tests other than the graduation test; or
 - 4 (ii) Classroom work; and
- 5 (6) Otherwise satisfies all state and local graduation requirements."

6 **SECTION 2.**

7 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.