

The House Committee on Education offers the following substitute to HB 252:

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 in all opportunities to take the test prior to graduation;

17 (2)(A) Completes and passes a remedial course in the area or areas in which he or she  
18 fails to pass the test, if available; or

19 (B) Completes remediation opportunities provided to the student by the student's  
20 school in which remedial courses are not available;

21 (3) Maintains a school attendance rate of at least 95 percent with excused absences not  
22 counting against the student's attendance;

23 (4) Maintains at least a 'B' average or the equivalent in the courses comprising the credits  
24 specifically required for graduation by rule of the board of education;

25 (5) Obtains a written recommendation from a teacher of the student in each subject area  
26 in which the student has not achieved a passing score. The recommendation must:

- 1 (A) Be concurred in by the principal of the student's school; and  
2 (B) Be supported by documentation that the student has attained the academic standard  
3 in the subject area based upon:  
4 (i) Tests other than the graduation test; or  
5 (ii) Classroom work;  
6 (6) Otherwise satisfies all state and local graduation requirements; and  
7 (7) Is approved by the local board of education."

8 **SECTION 2.**

9 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.