

Senate Bill 515

By: Senators Moody of the 56th, Weber of the 40th, Douglas of the 17th, Starr of the 44th and Thomas of the 54th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to educational programs under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as
3 to expand the grades of eligibility for the remedial education program; to provide for related
4 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
8 relating to educational programs under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by
9 striking subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-154, relating to the remedial education program,
10 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "(a) All children and youth who are eligible for a general and career education program
12 under Code Section 20-2-151 and who are also eligible under the criteria specified in this
13 Code section shall be provided, in accordance with policies adopted by the State Board of
14 Education, the remedial education program services needed to address their respective
15 reading, mathematics, or writing deficiencies. The following students shall be eligible for
16 remedial education services:

17 (1) Students in grades ~~nine~~ six through 12 may be eligible for services if they meet two
18 or more of the following criteria:

19 (A) The student has been through the formal student support team process and has
20 documented evidence to support the placement in remedial education;

21 (B) The student has been retained in the grade;

22 (C) The student is receiving services under Part A of Chapter 1 of Title 1 of the
23 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Improving
24 America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-382);

25 (D) The student has been recommended by the teacher who has documented any of the
26 following student information:

- 1 (i) Low performance in the reading series system;
2 (ii) Low performance in the mathematics series; or
3 (iii) The student is unable to verbally express ideas and cannot write or dictate a
4 meaningful sentence; or
5 (E) Current test information in the student file indicates the student has a score at or
6 below the twenty-fifth percentile; and
7 (2) Students in grades ~~nine~~ six through 12 who are receiving services under the special
8 education program as authorized by Code Section 20-2-152 and whose Individualized
9 Education Programs (IEP's) specify that they meet the eligibility requirements specified
10 in paragraph (1) of this subsection and that their special education program is not
11 designed to address their respective reading, mathematics, or writing deficiencies.
12 No more than 25 percent of the full-time equivalent population in eligible grades as
13 specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall be eligible for the remedial
14 program; provided, however, that the State Board of Education may develop regulations
15 whereby a higher percentage may be eligible if the percentage of students receiving free
16 and reduced price lunches exceeds 50 percent."

17 **SECTION 2.**

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