

Senate Bill 349

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th, Thomas of the 2nd, Butler of the 55th, Seay of the 34th and Moody of the 56th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to health of students in elementary and secondary education, so as to
3 require that parents and guardians of students are provided with information about
4 meningococcal meningitis and its associated vaccine or vaccines at the beginning of every
5 school year; to provide for the development of sample educational materials by the
6 Department of Human Resources; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
7 and for other purposes.

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

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SECTION 1.

11 Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
12 relating to health of students in elementary and secondary education, is amended by inserting
13 a new Code section to be designated Code Section 20-2-775 to read as follows:

14 "20-2-775.

15 (a) Local boards of education shall ensure that each of their schools provide parents and
16 guardians with information about meningococcal meningitis and its associated vaccine or
17 vaccines at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes
18 and symptoms of meningococcal meningitis, how it is spread, and the places where parents
19 and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. The
20 Department of Education shall ensure that each state chartered special school provides such
21 information to the parents and guardians of its students. The Department of Education shall
22 ensure that similar information is made available to private schools and home schools for
23 distribution to the parents and guardians of their students.

24 (b) The Department of Human Resources shall develop and make available sample
25 educational materials that can be provided to parents and guardians. The Department of
26 Human Resources shall provide these materials to the Department of Education and local
27 boards of education. These materials may be provided electronically."

- 1 **SECTION 2.**
- 2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.