

House Bill 332

By: Representatives Coleman of the 97th, Millar of the 79th, Hembree of the 67th, Jones of the 46th, Maxwell of the 17th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-182 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 program weights, maximum class size, and reporting requirements under the "Quality Basic
3 Education Act," so as to delay the implementation of certain maximum class size
4 requirements; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 20-2-182 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to program
9 weights, maximum class size, and reporting requirements under the "Quality Basic Education
10 Act," is amended by revising paragraph (2) of subsection (i) and subsection (k) as follows:

11 "(2) The State Board of Education shall adopt for each instructional program authorized
12 pursuant to Part 3 of this article except those programs included in paragraph (1) of this
13 subsection the maximum number of students which may be taught by a teacher in an
14 instructional period. For the remedial education, vocational laboratory, alternative
15 education, and early intervention programs, the State Board of Education shall provide
16 for a system average maximum class size that shall not exceed the funding class size by
17 more than 20 percent, unless specifically authorized by the State Board of Education;
18 provided, further, that the system average maximum class size for special education,
19 gifted, and English for speakers of other languages classes shall be set by the State Board
20 of Education. For each instructional program covered under this paragraph, the
21 maximum number of students who may be taught by a teacher in an instructional period
22 shall not exceed the system average maximum class size for the program by more than
23 two students; provided, however, that a system average maximum class size which results
24 in a fractional full-time equivalent shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number. For
25 a period not to exceed ~~seven~~ nine years, beginning with the 2000-2001 school year, local
26 school systems shall be allowed to exceed the maximum class sizes set forth in this

1 subsection in a manner consistent with State Board of Education rules and subsection (k)
 2 of this Code section, except for those programs included in paragraph (1) of this
 3 subsection beginning with the 2006-2007 school year. The State Board of Education
 4 shall lower the current maximum class sizes set by state board rules in effect for the
 5 1999-2000 school year, beginning with the 2000-2001 school year, by an amount so that,
 6 beginning with the ~~2007-2008~~ 2009-2010 school year, State Board of Education rules are
 7 in compliance with this subsection; provided, however, that this shall not apply to the
 8 programs included in paragraph (1) of this subsection beginning with the 2006-2007
 9 school year."

10 "(k)(1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection or in paragraph
 11 (1) of subsection (i) of this Code section, for the 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006, ~~and~~
 12 ~~2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009~~ school years, the maximum class sizes set by the
 13 State Board of Education for the 2002-2003 school year shall apply for grades four
 14 through 12.

15 (2)(A) For the 2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009 school ~~year~~ years, for the
 16 following regular education programs, the maximum individual class size for
 17 mathematics, science, social studies, and language arts classes shall be:

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 18 | (i) High school general education program (9-12), except science | 32 |
| 19 | (ii) High school general education program (9-12), science only | 30 |

20 (B) For the 2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009 school ~~year~~ years, in addition to the
 21 maximum individual class size requirements in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the
 22 maximum system average class size for mathematics, science, social studies, and
 23 language arts classes shall be:

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 24 | (i) High school general education program (9-12), except science. . . | 30 |
| 25 | (ii) High school general education program (9-12), science only. . . . | 28 |

26 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, other provisions of this Code section
 27 shall apply. This subsection shall not be construed to repeal any other provision of this
 28 Code section or this chapter, or to apply to any period of time other than the ~~four~~ six
 29 fiscal years beginning July 1, 2003, and ending June 30, ~~2007~~ 2009. This subsection
 30 shall be automatically repealed July 1, ~~2007~~ 2009."

31 SECTION 3.

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