

Senate Bill 257

By: Senators Fort of the 39th, Tate of the 38th and Thomas of the 2nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to school attendance in elementary and secondary education, so as to  
3 enact the "Dropout Deterrent Act"; to provide for a short title; to revise the age of mandatory  
4 education; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Dropout Deterrent Act."

8 **SECTION 2.**

9 Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
10 relating to school attendance in elementary and secondary education, is amended in Code  
11 Section 20-2-690.1, relating to mandatory education for children, by striking subsection (a)  
12 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

13 "(a) Mandatory attendance in a public school, private school, or home school program shall  
14 be required for children between their sixth and ~~sixteenth~~ seventeenth birthdays. Such  
15 mandatory attendance shall not be required where the child has successfully completed all  
16 requirements for a high school diploma."

17 **SECTION 3.**

18 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.