

The Senate Higher Education Committee offered the following substitute to HB 467:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to the University System of Georgia, so as to provide for course credit  
3 for entering freshmen students who have successfully completed the international  
4 baccalaureate diploma program; to provide for veterans preferences at University System of  
5 Georgia institutions; to provide definitions; to provide for related matters; to provide an  
6 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

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9 Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
10 relating to the University System of Georgia, is amended by adding new Code sections to  
11 read as follows:

12 "20-3-88.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'international baccalaureate diploma program'  
14 means the curriculum and examinations required for an international baccalaureate diploma  
15 awarded by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

16 (b) Each public institution of higher education in this state shall adopt and implement a  
17 policy to grant undergraduate course credit to entering freshmen students who have  
18 successfully completed the international baccalaureate diploma program.

19 (c) In the policy, the institution shall, except as otherwise provided by this subsection,  
20 grant at least 24 semester credit hours or equivalent course credit in appropriate subject  
21 areas to an entering freshman student for successful completion of the international  
22 baccalaureate diploma program. The institution may grant fewer than 24 semester credit  
23 hours if a student received a score of less than four on an examination administered as part  
24 of the international baccalaureate diploma program. The institution may grant fewer credit  
25 hours only with respect to courses that are substantially related to the subject area of that  
26 examination.

1 (d) Each public institution of higher education shall report to the board of regents the  
 2 policy adopted and implemented under this Code section and shall make the policy available  
 3 to the public on the institution's Internet site.

4 (e) Each public institution of higher education in this state shall:

5 (1) Not later than December 31, 2007, adopt and make available to the public and to the  
 6 board of regents the policy required by this Code section; and

7 (2) Implement the policy beginning with admissions to the institution for the 2008-2009  
 8 academic year.

9 20-3-89.

10 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'qualifying veteran' means an individual who:

11 (1) Meets the minimum qualifications for admission to the institution or the graduate or  
 12 professional program for which such individual is applying;

13 (2) Served as a member of the Georgia National Guard as such term is defined in Code  
 14 Section 38-2-3, the reserve components of the armed forces of the United States, or the  
 15 active duty components of the armed forces of the United States; and

16 (3)(A) Served a term of deployment overseas for active service in connection with such  
 17 individual's service as a member of the Georgia National Guard, reserve components  
 18 of the armed forces of the United States, or active duty components of the armed forces  
 19 of the United States to a location or locations outside of the United States and its  
 20 territories designated by the United States Department of Defense as a combat zone for  
 21 a consecutive period of at least 181 days; or

22 (B) Served a term of deployment overseas for active service in connection with such  
 23 individual's service as a member of the Georgia National Guard, reserve components  
 24 of the armed forces of the United States, or active duty components of the armed forces  
 25 of the United States to a location or locations outside of the United States and its  
 26 territories designated by the United States Department of Defense as a combat zone for  
 27 less than 181 consecutive days if such individual was evacuated from the combat zone  
 28 due to injuries received in combat before serving 181 consecutive days in such combat  
 29 zone.

30 (b) Each institution of the University System of Georgia shall reserve 2 1/2 percent of its  
 31 freshman class, in the case of undergraduate admissions, and the entering class of each  
 32 graduate or professional program, in the case of graduate and professional program  
 33 admissions, for qualifying veterans. Each institution shall admit each qualifying veteran  
 34 who applies for admission as a freshman undergraduate student or as a member of the  
 35 entering class of a graduate or professional program, provided that such preferential  
 36 admissions do not exceed 2 1/2 percent of such freshman class or entering class.

1 (c) In the event that the number of qualifying veterans admitted is less than 2 1/2 percent  
2 of the freshman or entering class, the remaining amount may be used for regular  
3 admissions.

4 (d) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to limit or prevent the admission of any  
5 qualifying veteran to any institution under regular admission standards if the institution has  
6 filled its 2 1/2 percent preferential class reservation for qualifying veterans."

7 **SECTION 2.**

8 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2007.

9 **SECTION 3.**

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