

Senate Bill 500

By: Senators Carter of the 13th and Chance of the 16th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-165 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 equalization grants under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to change the calculations  
3 for equalization grants to include a factor for median household income; to provide for  
4 related 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 Code Section 20-2-165 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to equalization  
8 grants under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by revising subsection (b) as  
9 follows:

10 "(b) The State Board of Education shall annually calculate the equalization grant for each  
11 qualified local school system in the following manner:

12 (1) Subtract the assessed valuation per weighted full-time equivalent count for the local  
13 school system from the assessed valuation per weighted full-time equivalent count for the  
14 guaranteed valuation school system;

15 (2) Divide the difference resulting from paragraph (1) of this subsection by 1,000;

16 (3) Subtract five from the effective millage rate for the local school system and use the  
17 resulting number of effective mills or 15 effective mills, whichever is less, as the number  
18 of effective mills to be equalized;

19 (4) Multiply the quotient resulting from paragraph (2) of this subsection by the number  
20 of effective mills to be equalized pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection; ~~and~~

21 (5) Multiply the product resulting from paragraph (4) of this subsection by the most  
22 recent weighted full-time equivalent count for the local school system;

23 (6) Using the most recent decennial census data, calculate a ratio by dividing the median  
24 household income of the local school system by the state-wide median household income;

25 and

1 (7)(A) If the ratio obtained in paragraph (6) of this subsection is greater than one, then:

2 (i) Subtract one from the ratio obtained in paragraph (6) of this subsection;

3 (ii) Multiply the difference resulting from division (i) of this subparagraph by the  
4 product resulting from paragraph (5) of this subsection; and

5 (iii) Subtract the product resulting from division (ii) of this subparagraph from the  
6 product resulting from paragraph (5) of this subsection.

7 The resulting amount shall be the equalization grant for the ensuing fiscal year;  
8 provided, however, that for each local school system which serves under contract all  
9 of the students in one or more grade levels from an adjoining system and for each local  
10 school system which sends under contract all of the students in one or more grade levels  
11 to an adjoining system, the equalization grant shall be calculated to represent the  
12 amount that would be earned if the students transferred under said contract were  
13 included in the full-time equivalent counts of the local school system in which they  
14 reside; provided, further, that any equalization grant to be earned by a local school  
15 system sending students to another system under the provisions of such a contract shall  
16 be reduced by an amount which represents the equalization funds earned per weighted  
17 full-time equivalent student multiplied by the total weighted full-time equivalent count  
18 for students transferred, and any equalization grant to be earned by the local school  
19 system receiving students under said contract shall be increased by the same amount;

20 or

21 (B) If the ratio obtained in paragraph (6) of this subsection is less than or equal to one,  
22 the equalization grant for the ensuing fiscal year shall be the product resulting from  
23 paragraph (5) of this subsection ~~The resulting amount shall be the equalization grant for~~  
24 ~~the ensuing fiscal year;~~ provided, however, that for each local school system which  
25 serves under contract all of the students in one or more grade levels from an adjoining  
26 system and for each local school system which sends under contract all of the students  
27 in one or more grade levels to an adjoining system, the equalization grant shall be  
28 calculated to represent the amount that would be earned if the students transferred under  
29 said contract were included in the full-time equivalent counts of the local school system  
30 in which they reside; provided, further, that any equalization grant to be earned by a  
31 local school system sending students to another system under the provisions of such a  
32 contract shall be reduced by an amount which represents the equalization funds earned  
33 per weighted full-time equivalent student multiplied by the total weighted full-time  
34 equivalent count for students transferred, and any equalization grant to be earned by the  
35 local school system receiving students under said contract shall be increased by the  
36 same amount."

1 **SECTION 2.**

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