

Senate Bill 521

By: Senators Weber of the 40th, Williams of the 19th, Rogers of the 21st, Cowser of the 46th and Smith of the 52nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 4 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to financing under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide
3 for enrollment counts for students in certain dual enrollment programs; to provide for
4 requirements for weighting of students in certain dual enrollment courses under the Quality
5 Basic Education Formula; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
6 other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 4 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to financing under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by revising
11 subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-160, relating to determination of enrollment by
12 institutional program, as follows:

13 "(a) The State Board of Education shall designate the specific dates upon which two counts
14 of students enrolled in each instructional program authorized under this article shall be
15 made each school year and by which the counts shall be reported to the Department of
16 Education. The initial enrollment count shall be made after October 1 but prior to
17 November 17 and the final enrollment count after March 1 but prior to May 1. The report
18 shall indicate the student's specific assigned program for each one-sixth segment of the
19 school day on the designated reporting date. No program shall be indicated for a student
20 for any one-sixth segment of the school day that the student is assigned to a study hall; a
21 noncredit course; a course recognized under this article or by state board policy as an
22 enrichment course, except a driver education course; a course which requires participation
23 in an extracurricular activity for which enrollment is on a competitive basis; a course in
24 which the student serves as a student assistant to a teacher, in a school office, or in the
25 media center, except when such placement is an approved work site of a recognized career

26 or vocational program; an individual study course for which no outline of course objectives
 27 is prepared in writing prior to the beginning of the course; a course taken through the
 28 Georgia Virtual School pursuant to Code Section 20-2-319.1; or any other course or
 29 activity so designated by the state board. For the purpose of this Code section, the term
 30 'enrichment course' means a course which does not dedicate a major portion of the class
 31 time toward the development and enhancement of one or more student competencies as
 32 adopted by the state board under Code Section 20-2-140. A program shall not be indicated
 33 for a student for any one-sixth segment of the school day for which the student is not
 34 enrolled in an instructional program or has not attended a class or classes within the
 35 preceding ten days; nor shall a program be indicated for a student for any one-sixth
 36 segment of the school day for which the student is charged tuition or fees or is required to
 37 provide materials or equipment beyond those authorized pursuant to Code Section
 38 20-2-133. A student who is enrolled in an eligible institution under the program
 39 established in Code Section 20-2-161.1 may be counted for the high school program for
 40 only that portion of the day that the student is attending the high school for those segments
 41 that are eligible to be counted under this subsection. A student who is enrolled in a dual
 42 enrollment program other than as established in Code Section 20-2-161.1 shall be counted
 43 for the high school program or other appropriate program for each segment in which the
 44 student is attending a postsecondary course conducted at a facility operated by the local
 45 board of education, at a charter school as defined in paragraph (13) of Code Section
 46 20-2-2062, or at a commission charter school as defined in paragraph (2) of Code Section
 47 20-2-2081. The state board shall adopt such regulations and criteria as necessary to ensure
 48 objective and true counts of students in state approved instructional programs. The state
 49 board shall also establish criteria by which students shall be counted as resident or
 50 nonresident students, including specific circumstances which may include, but not be
 51 limited to, students attending another local school system under court order or under the
 52 terms of a contract between two local school systems. If a local school system has a
 53 justifiable reason, it may seek authority from the state board to shift full-time equivalent
 54 program counts from the designated date to a requested alternate date."

55 **SECTION 2.**

56 Said part is further amended in Code Section 20-2-161, relating to the Quality Basic
 57 Education Formula, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

58 "(c.1) For purposes of calculating the annual allotment of funds to each local school
 59 system, a student who is enrolled in a dual enrollment program other than as established
 60 in Code Section 20-2-161.1 shall be counted for the high school program or other

61 appropriate program for each segment in which the student is attending a postsecondary
62 course conducted at a facility operated by the local board of education, at a charter school
63 as defined in paragraph (13) of Code Section 20-2-2062, or at a commission charter school
64 as defined in paragraph (2) of Code Section 20-2-2081."

65 **SECTION 3.**

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