

House Bill 455

By: Representatives Neal of the 1st, Lindsey of the 54th, Casas of the 103rd, Ashe of the 56th, England of the 108th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-211 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 annual contracts for certificated personnel in elementary and secondary education, so as to
3 temporarily extend certain deadlines; to provide for related matters; to provide for an
4 effective date; 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 20-2-211 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual
8 contracts for certificated personnel in elementary and secondary education, is amended by
9 revising subsection (b) as follows:

10 "(b) Any other provisions of this article or any other laws to the contrary notwithstanding,
11 each local governing board shall, by not later than April 15 of the current school year,
12 tender a new contract for the ensuing school year to each teacher and other professional
13 employee certificated by the Professional Standards Commission on the payroll of the local
14 unit of administration at the beginning of the current school year, except those who have
15 resigned or who have been terminated as provided in Part 7 of Article 17 of this chapter,
16 or shall notify in writing each such teacher or other certificated professional employee of
17 the intention of not renewing his or her contract for the ensuing school year; provided,
18 however, that for school year 2009-2010 only, each local governing board shall have until
19 May 15, 2009, to tender such new contracts or provide such written notice. Such contracts
20 when tendered to each teacher or other professional employee shall be complete in all
21 terms and conditions of the contract, including the amount of compensation to be paid to
22 such teacher or other professional employee during the ensuing school year, and shall not
23 contain blanks or leave any terms and conditions of the contract open. A letter of intent or
24 similar document shall not constitute a contract and shall not be construed to require or
25 otherwise legally bind the teacher or other professional employee to return to such school
26 system. Upon request, a written explanation for failure to renew such contract shall be

27 made available to such certificated personnel by the executive officer. When such notice
28 of intended termination has not been given by April 15, or by May 15, 2009, for school
29 year 2009-2010 only, the employment of such teacher or other certificated professional
30 employee shall be continued for the ensuing school year unless the teacher or certificated
31 professional employee elects not to accept such employment by notifying the local
32 governing board or executive officer in writing not later than May 1, or by June 1, 2009,
33 for school year 2009-2010 only."

34 **SECTION 2.**

35 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
36 without such approval.

37 **SECTION 3.**

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