

Senate Bill 298

By: Senators Seay of the 34th, Brown of the 26th, Butler of the 55th, Jones of the 10th, Fort of the 39th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-142 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 prescribed courses in education and the development and dissemination of instructional  
3 materials on the effects of alcohol and drug use, so as to require as a part of a course of study  
4 in secondary health education a course of study in basic first aid; to provide for mandatory  
5 certification in basic first aid as a condition of graduation from high school; to provide for  
6 related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
7 purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

10 Code Section 20-2-142 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to prescribed  
11 courses in education and the development and dissemination of instructional materials on the  
12 effects of alcohol and drug use, is amended by revising subsection (c) as follows:

13 "(c) The State Board of Education shall prescribe a course of study in health and physical  
14 education for all grades and grade levels in the public schools and shall establish minimum  
15 time requirements and standards for its administration. The course shall include instruction  
16 concerning the impact of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use upon health. The health education  
17 course offered in eighth grade or a higher grade shall include a one-time course of  
18 instruction in basic first aid. The basic first-aid course shall provide standards for  
19 certification and provide an opportunity for participating students to obtain a basic first-aid  
20 certification. Certification in basic first aid shall be required as a condition of graduation  
21 from high school in 2014 and any year thereafter. A manual setting out the details of such  
22 courses of study shall be prepared or approved by the State School Superintendent in  
23 cooperation with the Department of Community Health, the state board, and such expert  
24 advisers as they may choose. The Department of Education is directed to assemble or  
25 develop instructional resources and materials concerning alcohol and drug abuse, taking  
26 into consideration technological enhancements available for utilization of such instructional

27 resources. Local school boards are authorized to use volunteer instructors approved by the  
28 State Board of Education for providing first-aid training, including but not limited to  
29 trained volunteers from the American Red Cross or similar organizations."

30 **SECTION 2.**

31 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2010.

32 **SECTION 3.**

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