

The Senate Education and Youth Committee offered the following substitute to SB 132:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To enact the "Dropout Deterrent Act"; to provide for a short title; to amend Part 1 of Article  
2 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to school  
3 attendance in elementary and secondary education, so as to revise the age of mandatory  
4 education; to provide for a waiver; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;  
5 and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

8 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Dropout Deterrent Act."

**SECTION 2.**

10 Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
11 relating to school attendance in elementary and secondary education, is amended in Code  
12 Section 20-2-690.1, relating to mandatory education for children, by revising subsection (a)  
13 as follows:

14 "(a) Mandatory attendance in a public school, private school, or home school program shall  
15 be required for children between their sixth and ~~sixteenth~~ seventeenth ~~birthdays~~ birthdays;  
16 provided, however, that a parent or guardian may sign a waiver for his or her child to opt  
17 out of a traditional public school setting between the age of 16 and 17 so long as the child  
18 enrolls in and attends a community college or technical school, which for purposes of this  
19 subsection shall be considered attendance in a public school, until such child reaches the  
20 age of 17. Such mandatory attendance shall not be required where the child has  
21 successfully completed all requirements for a high school diploma."

**SECTION 3.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.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