

House Bill 283

By: Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Dawkins-Haigler of the 93rd, Heard of the 114th, Dukes of the 150th, Brooks of the 63rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 14 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to other educational programs relative to the "Quality Basic Education
3 Act," so as to provide that the State Board of Education shall incorporate into rape prevention
4 and personal safety education programs a program for preventing teen dating violence, the
5 Love Is Not Abuse Curriculum; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 WHEREAS, since 2004, Liz Claiborne has been a major supporter of intimate partner
9 violence education and has been providing resources to teachers and students on teen dating
10 abuse and violence awareness and prevention; and

11 WHEREAS, through its "Love is Not Abuse" campaign, Liz Claiborne provides information
12 and tools that men, women, children, and teens can use to learn about the issue of domestic
13 violence and ways to help end the epidemic; and

14 WHEREAS, the Love Is Not Abuse Curriculum is a step-by-step guide to teaching high
15 school students about the issue of dating violence; using literature and poetry, this program
16 provides teachers with the tools to teach about this sensitive subject and is intended to be
17 taught in either Health or English/Language Arts classes; and

18 WHEREAS, our goals are to distribute this curriculum across all U.S. states and territories
19 and educate as many teenagers on this issue as possible; with the help of the Family, Career
20 and Community Leaders of America, Inc., a nonprofit national career and technical student
21 organization for young men and women in family and consumer sciences education in public
22 and private schools through grade 12, and other partners, over 1,400 schools across 50 states
23 and the District of Columbia will have taught the curriculum by February, 2009; and

24 WHEREAS, as of February, 2009, 76 Georgia schools offered the Love Is Not Abuse
25 Curriculum.

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 Part 14 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
28 relating to other educational programs relative to the "Quality Basic Education Act," is
29 amended by revising Code Section 20-2-314, relating to development of rape prevention,
30 personal safety education, and teen dating violence prevention programs, as follows:

31 "20-2-314.

32 The State Board of Education shall develop, with input from appropriate experts, such as
33 rape crisis centers and family violence shelters, a rape prevention and personal safety
34 education program and a program for preventing teen dating violence for grade eight
35 through grade 12 which are consistent with the core curriculum provided for in Code
36 Section 20-2-140. The State Board of Education shall incorporate into such programs the
37 Love Is Not Abuse Curriculum. Local boards may implement such programs at any time
38 and for any grade level local boards find appropriate, and the state board shall encourage
39 the implementation of such programs. In addition, the state board shall make information
40 regarding such programs available to the Board of Regents of the University System of
41 Georgia."

42 **SECTION 3.**

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