

House Resolution 492

By: Representatives Clark of the 104th, Carter of the 175th, Coleman of the 97th, Kaiser of the 59th, Ashe of the 56th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Directing the Professional Standards Commission to establish certification renewal rules that
2 require the impact of professional learning on educator performance and student learning and
3 to establish a task force; and for other purposes
- 4 WHEREAS, the goal of professional learning is to improve educational practices that result
5 in higher student achievement; and
- 6 WHEREAS, efforts to improve student achievement can succeed only by building the
7 capacity of teachers and leaders to improve their practices; and
- 8 WHEREAS, effective professional learning can be defined as that which results in
9 improvement in educator knowledge and practices, as well as improved student learning
10 outcomes; and
- 11 WHEREAS, research has shown that well-designed professional learning can improve
12 practice and increase student achievement if it is intensive, ongoing, and connected to
13 practice; is focused on student learning and addresses the teaching of specific curriculum
14 content; is aligned with school improvement priorities and goals; and is used to build strong
15 working relationships among teachers and leaders; and
- 16 WHEREAS, professional learning should focus on what practices are needed to improve
17 student learning; and
- 18 WHEREAS, a core expectation of the education profession should be that educators
19 demonstrate improvement over the course of a career; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Georgia's Race to the Top plan requires the measure of teacher effectiveness
21 and also states that the effectiveness of teachers will be improved through targeted
22 professional learning; and

23 WHEREAS, Georgia's Race to the Top plan states that Georgia will revise professional
24 learning unit (PLU) requirements for recertification so that all professional learning activity
25 undertaken by educators between certificate cycles is sharply aligned with potential
26 weaknesses brought to light by effectiveness measures.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
28 GEORGIA that the Professional Standards Commission is directed to:

29 (1) Revise its certification renewal rules so that demonstration of the impact of
30 professional learning on educator performance and student performance is required in order
31 for certification to be renewed, effective July, 2015; and

32 (2) Establish a task force to determine the level of evidence necessary for educators to
33 demonstrate the impact of professional learning and how this evidence will be collected
34 and submitted for the purposes of certificate renewal.