

House Bill 659

By: Representative Wilkinson of the 52<sup>nd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to reckless conduct, so as to change provisions relating to hazing; to provide that  
3 certain persons convicted of hazing shall not be eligible to attend schools in this state; to  
4 provide for related matters; 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 Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
8 reckless conduct, is amended by revising Code Section 16-5-61, relating to hazing, as  
9 follows:

10 "16-5-61.

11 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

12 (1) 'Haze' means to subject a student to an activity which endangers or is likely to  
13 endanger the physical health of a student, regardless of a student's willingness to  
14 participate in such activity.

15 (2) 'School' means any school, college, or university in this state.

16 (3) 'School organization' means any club, society, fraternity, sorority, athletic team, or  
17 a group living together which has students as its principal members.

18 (4) 'Student' means any person enrolled in a school ~~in this state~~.

19 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to haze any student in connection with or as a  
20 condition or precondition of gaining acceptance, membership, office, or other status in a  
21 school organization.

22 (c) Any person who violates this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high  
23 and aggravated nature.

24 (d) Except as provided in Code Section 20-2-690.1, any person convicted of violating this  
25 Code section shall not be eligible to enroll in or attend a school."

26

**SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.