

House Bill 1178

By: Representatives Dickson of the 6<sup>th</sup>, England of the 108<sup>th</sup>, and Coleman of the 97<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 28-5-42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 introduction of bills having significant impact upon anticipated revenues or expenditures and  
3 furnishing of fiscal notes, so as to require a ten-year projection of costs for bills which would  
4 create a new program or funding category and which would have a significant impact upon  
5 anticipated revenues or expenditures of the Department of Education; to provide for related  
6 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 28-5-42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to introduction of  
10 bills having significant impact upon anticipated revenues or expenditures and furnishing of  
11 fiscal notes, is amended by revising subsection (g) as follows:

12 "(g)(1) The fiscal note required by this Code section shall include a reliable estimate in  
13 dollars of the anticipated change in revenue or expenditures under the provisions of the  
14 bill. It shall also include a statement as to the immediate effect and, if determinable or  
15 reasonably foreseeable, the long-range effect of the measure. If, after careful  
16 investigation, it is determined that no dollar estimate is possible, the fiscal note shall  
17 contain a statement to that effect, setting forth the reasons why no dollar estimate can be  
18 given. In this event, the fiscal note shall contain an example based on a specific situation  
19 or reflecting the average group of persons possibly affected by the bill so as to provide  
20 an indication of the cost of such bill to the General Assembly. Assumptions used to  
21 develop these averages shall be noted in the fiscal note and the criteria included herein  
22 shall constitute a fiscal note. No comment or opinion regarding the merits of the measure  
23 for which the statement is prepared shall be included in the fiscal note; however,  
24 technical or mechanical defects may be noted. The state auditor and the director of the  
25 Office of Planning and Budget shall jointly prepare their fiscal note; and, if there is a  
26 difference of opinion between such officials, it shall be noted in the fiscal note. In the

27 event the director of the Office of Planning and Budget and the state auditor concur that  
28 the fiscal note on any such bill cannot be prepared within the five-day limitation in effect  
29 during any regular session of the General Assembly, they shall so inform the chairperson  
30 in writing and shall be allowed to submit said note not later than ten days after the request  
31 for it is made.

32 (2) For fiscal note requests for a bill having a significant impact on the anticipated  
33 revenue or expenditure level of the Department of Education which would create a new  
34 program or funding category, the fiscal note shall include a ten-year projection of the  
35 costs of such new program or funding category."

36 **SECTION 2.**

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