

Senate Resolution 617

By: Senator Wilkinson of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting the implementation of comprehensive school counseling programs for Georgia
2 students; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, all Georgia students deserve access to quality comprehensive data-driven school
4 counseling programs that are proactive and prevention-based; and

5 WHEREAS, all Georgia students deserve access to school counselors who deliver
6 developmentally appropriate school counseling core curriculum lessons at each grade level
7 that address students' academic, career, personal, and social developmental needs; provide
8 individual student planning designed to assist students in establishing personal goals and
9 developing future plans; and offer responsive services to meet students' immediate needs and
10 concerns; and

11 WHEREAS, all Georgia students deserve school counselors who are permitted to spend the
12 majority of their time working directly with students to address their academic, career,
13 personal, and social needs and provide indirect student services by collaborating and
14 consulting with teachers, parents, administrators, and other stakeholders on behalf of
15 students; and

16 WHEREAS, a comprehensive school counseling program based on academic, career, and
17 personal and social standards and competencies such as those of the American School
18 Counselor Association should be an integral part of the total educational program for student
19 success; and

20 WHEREAS, school counseling activities and interventions within a comprehensive program
21 should impact student achievement, attendance, behavior, and school safety; and

22 WHEREAS, school counselors are uniquely qualified and skilled to address students'
23 academic, career, personal, and social development needs; and

24 WHEREAS, school counselors promote and enhance student achievement and college and
25 career readiness; advocate for students' educational needs and support students who are at
26 risk of grade retention and/or dropping out of high school; and collaborate with all
27 stakeholders, both inside and outside the school system, to develop and implement
28 responsive educational programs that support student achievement and the school strategic
29 planning; and

30 WHEREAS, school counselors should use data to drive program decisions, monitor student
31 progress, and measure outcomes in order to improve services for students; and

32 WHEREAS, school counselors should serve as leaders who are engaged in system-wide
33 change to ensure student success.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
35 request the implementation of comprehensive school counseling programs and encourage the
36 State Department of Education, school districts, and local schools to support the
37 implementation of these programs and to comply with State Board Rule 160-4-8-.05 and
38 Code Section 20-2-182 by allowing school counselors to spend a minimum of five of the six
39 full-time segments or the equivalent advising students, parents, and guardians.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
41 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia School Counselors
42 Association.