

House Bill 680

By: Representatives Abrams of the 89th and Coleman of the 97th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend of Code Section 20-2-2068.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating
2 to charter school funding, so as to clarify certain funding of charter schools to ensure that
3 local revenue is allocated equally as to all schools in a district; to repeal conflicting laws; and
4 for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-2-2068.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to charter
8 school funding, is amended by revising subsection (c) as follows:

9 "(c) In addition to the earnings set out in subsection (b) of this Code section, local revenue
10 shall be allocated to a local charter school on the same basis as for any local school in the
11 local school system. In the case of a start-up charter school, local revenue earnings shall
12 be calculated as follows:

13 (1) Determine the total amount of state and local five mill share funds earned by students
14 enrolled in the local start-up charter school as calculated by the Quality Basic Education
15 Formula pursuant to Part 4 of Article 6 of this chapter including any funds for
16 psychologists and school social workers but excluding 5 percent of system-wide funds
17 for central administration and excluding any categorical grants not applicable to the
18 charter school;

19 (2) Determine the total amount of state and local five mill share funds earned by all
20 students in the public schools of the local school system, including any charter schools
21 that receive local revenue, as calculated by the Quality Basic Education Formula but
22 excluding categorical grants and other non-QBE formula grants;

23 (3) Divide the amount obtained in paragraph (1) of this subsection by the amount
24 obtained in paragraph (2) of this subsection; and

25 (4) Multiply the quotient obtained in paragraph (3) of this subsection by the school
26 system's local revenue.

27 The product obtained in paragraph (4) of this subsection shall be the amount of local funds
28 to be distributed to the local start-up charter school by the local board; provided, however,
29 that nothing in this subsection shall preclude a charter petitioner and a local board of
30 education from specifying in the charter a greater amount of local funds to be provided by
31 the local board to the local start-up charter school if agreed upon by all parties to the
32 charter. Local funds so earned shall be distributed to the local start-up charter school by
33 the local board. Where feasible and where services are provided, funds for construction
34 projects shall also be distributed to the local start-up charter school as earned. In all other
35 fiscal matters, including applicable federal allotments, the local board shall treat the local
36 start-up charter school no less favorably than other local schools located within the
37 applicable school system and shall calculate and distribute the funding for the start-up
38 charter school on the basis of its actual or projected enrollment in the current school year
39 according to an enrollment counting procedure or projection method stipulated in the terms
40 of the charter. In order to ensure that local revenue is allocated equally as to all schools in
41 a district, in any school system in which a portion of local revenue is used to satisfy past
42 unfunded pension liability, either directly or through bonded indebtedness, a similar
43 amount shall be deducted from the local revenue allocated to charter schools prior to
44 distribution."

45 **SECTION 2.**

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