

Senate Bill 289

By: Senator McKoon of the 29th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to local boards of education, so as to authorize local boards of education to adopt  
3 policies allowing for an inspirational message by students at student assemblies; to provide  
4 requirements; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to local  
9 boards of education, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

10 "20-2-76.

11 (a) A local board of education may adopt a policy allowing an inspirational message to be  
12 delivered by students at a student assembly. The policy shall provide that:

13 (1) Students who are responsible for organizing any student led portion of a student  
14 assembly shall:

15 (A) Have sole discretion in determining whether an inspirational message is to be  
16 delivered; and

17 (B) Choose the student volunteers who will deliver an inspirational message. The  
18 student volunteers shall be solely responsible for the preparation and content of the  
19 inspirational message; and

20 (2) Local school system personnel shall not:

21 (A) Participate in, or otherwise influence, the determination of whether an inspirational  
22 message is to be delivered or the selection of the student volunteers who will deliver  
23 the inspirational message; or

24 (B) Monitor or otherwise review the content of a student volunteer's inspirational  
25 message.

26 (b) The intent of this Code section is to provide students with the opportunity for formal  
27 or ceremonious observance of an occasion or event."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.