

Senate Bill 329

By: Senators Wilkinson of the 50th and Tippins of the 37th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for work based learning programs; to
3 provide for a short title; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for requirements for
4 work based learning programs; to provide for local coordinators; to revise provisions for
5 purposes of conformity; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
6 other purposes.

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Work Based Learning Act."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
12 secondary education, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-161.2, relating to the Youth
13 Apprenticeship Program, as follows:

14 "20-2-161.2.

15 (a) The General Assembly finds that it would be beneficial to students, employers, and the
16 economic health of the state to assist in providing highly trained, technologically
17 sophisticated, and career oriented students which will aid in the development of a
18 successful twenty-first century work force. By opening their doors to work based learning
19 opportunities, employers can play an active role in shaping the quality of their future work
20 force, by preparing potential leaders for their company and their community, and by
21 helping shape future curriculum to create an educated work force for their industry as a
22 whole. Work based learning programs can provide students the opportunity to work and
23 learn in a real-world environment and prepare them for future career opportunities. Such
24 work based learning opportunities can be accomplished by developing partnerships

25 between and among the business community, industry, students, parents, school systems,
 26 and postsecondary education institutions.

27 ~~(a)(b)~~ Any ~~eleventh or twelfth grade pupil or pupil~~ student aged 16 or over in any public
 28 school in this state may enroll in a ~~Youth Apprenticeship Program~~ work based learning
 29 program which is offered at that public school and which is approved for secondary credit
 30 by the department. Such ~~pupil~~ student shall be granted release time from the public school
 31 to work as ~~an apprentice~~ a student learner for any business enterprise which is approved
 32 by the ~~department~~ local work based learning coordinator as a qualified employer ~~under the~~
 33 ~~educational apprenticeship program pursuant to this Code section and work based learning~~
 34 program guidelines established by the department. A ~~pupil~~ student shall receive secondary
 35 credit for such ~~apprenticeship~~ work based learning only under the conditions established
 36 by the department. The department is authorized to establish a ~~Youth Apprenticeship~~
 37 ~~Program~~ work based learning programs and guidelines to assist local school systems in
 38 operating such programs and to promulgate such policies, standards, procedures, criteria,
 39 and administrative requirements as may be necessary to implement the program by rules
 40 and regulations. The work based learning programs established pursuant to this Code
 41 section may include, but not be limited to, employability skill development, cooperative
 42 education, internships, and youth apprenticeships. The department shall ~~consult~~ collaborate
 43 with the Department of Labor and the Technical College System of Georgia in developing
 44 such policies and procedures. The department's ~~certified educational apprenticeship plan~~
 45 work based learning programs shall include but not be limited to the following:

- 46 (1) A detailed training agreement and training plan between employer and ~~apprentice~~
 47 student that identifies specific work tasks that will develop workplace competency;
- 48 (2) A minimum of ~~144 classroom hours of related academic instruction and training~~ one
 49 unit of credit in a career pathway course related to the work based learning placement;
- 50 (3) A minimum of ~~2,000~~ number of hours of on-the-job training as required in the
 51 department's guidelines for awarding secondary credit;
- 52 (4) ~~A progressive wage schedule established by the participating employer;~~
- 53 ~~(5)~~(4) On-site evaluation of the ~~pupil's~~ student's performance;
- 54 ~~(6)~~(5) Training remediation as necessary at the school site;
- 55 ~~(7)~~(6) A broad range of skills but shall be focused on ~~manufacturing and engineering~~
 56 ~~technology, administration and office technology, and health care~~ skills related to the
 57 student's career pathway;
- 58 ~~(8)~~(7) Development of materials by the business, industry, and labor community in
 59 conjunction with the department to promote the awareness of ~~apprenticeships~~ work based
 60 learning opportunities for high school students and encourage recruitment; and

61 ~~(9)(8)~~ Structural linkage between secondary and postsecondary components of the
 62 program leading to the awarding of a high school diploma and, in the case of youth
 63 apprenticeships, a postsecondary certification of occupational skills credential related to
 64 the student's career pathway.

65 (c) Local school systems may designate one or more local work based learning
 66 coordinators to coordinate and oversee work based learning programs for the school
 67 system.

68 (d) A college and career academy established in accordance with Code Section 20-4-37
 69 which participates in work based learning programs pursuant to this Code section and its
 70 charter shall be eligible for any funding or assistance available for the implementation of
 71 this Code section.

72 ~~The apprenticeship program shall include on-site training only in positions that have been~~
 73 ~~certified by the Department of Labor as highly skilled jobs in business and industry.~~

74 ~~(b) The department shall develop pilot projects for the fiscal year 1994 and fiscal year~~
 75 ~~1995 school years and shall implement and direct a comprehensive apprenticeship program~~
 76 ~~for all school systems by fiscal year 1996."~~

77 SECTION 3.

78 Said chapter is further amended by revising subsection (g) of Code Section 20-2-159.5,
 79 relating to dual credit courses, as follows:

80 "(g) Students enrolled in the ~~Georgia Youth Apprenticeship Program~~ a work based
 81 learning program under Code Section 20-2-161.2 ~~shall~~ may be eligible to earn dual credit
 82 upon completing a planned training experience under guidelines developed by the State
 83 Board of Education and the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia
 84 provided students meet postsecondary readiness established in reading and writing and
 85 mathematics for the particular advanced training program or associate's degree."

86 SECTION 4.

87 Said chapter is further amended by revising paragraph (5) of subsection (c) of Code Section
 88 20-2-327, relating to recognition of advanced proficiency/honors courses, and counseling and
 89 development of individual graduation plans, as follows:

90 "(5) Include experience based, career oriented learning experiences which may include,
 91 but not be limited to, participation in work based learning programs such as internships,
 92 apprenticeships, mentoring, co-op cooperative education, and ~~service learning~~
 93 employability skill development;"

94 **SECTION 5.**

95 Said chapter is further amended by revising paragraph (3) of Code Section 20-2-329, relating
96 to requirements for high schools that receive a reform grant, as follows:

97 "(3) Provide students in the ninth through twelfth grades information on educational
98 programs offered in high school, in technical and community colleges, in colleges and
99 universities, and through apprenticeship work based learning programs and how these
100 programs can lead to a variety of career fields. Local school systems shall provide career
101 awareness and exploratory opportunities for such as field trips, speakers, educational and
102 career information centers, job shadowing, and classroom centers to assist students and
103 their parents or guardians, with guidance from school counselors and teacher advisers,
104 in revising, if appropriate, the individual graduation plan developed pursuant to
105 subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-327;"

106 **SECTION 6.**

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