

House Bill 614

By: Representatives Stovall of the 74th, Brockway of the 102nd, Scott of the 76th, Benton of the 31st, and Kaiser of the 59th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 15 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to miscellaneous provisions under the "Quality Basic Education Act,"
3 so as to provide for a pilot program for the placement of video monitoring cameras in
4 classrooms providing special education services; to provide for program requirements; to
5 provide for a program evaluation; to provide for funding; to provide for a short title; to
6 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for 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 "Landon Dunson Act."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 Part 15 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
12 relating to miscellaneous provisions under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended
13 by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

14 "20-2-324.2.

15 (a) The Department of Education is authorized to establish a pilot program to provide for
16 the placement of video monitoring cameras and equipment by a school in self-contained
17 classrooms in which students receive special education services. The purpose of the pilot
18 program shall be to determine the feasibility and benefits, including any impact on safety,
19 of state-wide implementation of the program. The Department of Education is authorized
20 to select local schools and school systems for participation in the pilot program and may
21 select local schools and school systems which already utilize video monitoring cameras and
22 equipment in their special education self-contained classrooms. A local school or school
23 system may, in its sole discretion, agree to participate in such program.

24 (b) Such pilot program shall provide, at a minimum, for:

- 25 (1) Prior notice of the placement of video monitoring cameras to the parents of each
26 student in the selected classrooms;
- 27 (2) The retention of video recorded from video monitoring cameras placed pursuant to
28 this Code section for no less than one year from the date of the recording;
- 29 (3) The coverage by video monitoring cameras of all areas of the selected classrooms,
30 to the extent practical; and
- 31 (4) Procedures and requirements to protect the confidentiality of student records
32 contained in video recorded from video monitoring cameras placed pursuant to this Code
33 section under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
- 34 (c) The Department of Education shall provide for a program evaluation regarding the
35 feasibility and benefits, including any impact on safety, of the pilot program. The
36 department shall report the results of such evaluation to the Appropriations Committees of
37 the House of Representatives and the Senate, the House Committee on Education, and the
38 Senate Education and Youth Committee.
- 39 (d)(1) The pilot program shall also serve as a state level flow through point for any
40 available state or federal funding.
- 41 (2) The Department of Education may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from
42 any person or entity for use in placing video monitoring cameras in classrooms pursuant
43 to this Code section."

44 **SECTION 3.**

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