

The House Committee on Education offers the following substitute to SR 80:

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Requesting revision by the College Board of Advanced Placement U.S. History; and for
- 2 other purposes.

- 3 WHEREAS, approximately 14,000 Georgia students take the College Board's Advanced
- 4 Placement U. S. History (APUSH) course each year; and

- 5 WHEREAS, the APUSH course has traditionally been designed to present a balanced view
- 6 of American history and to prepare students for college-level history courses; and

- 7 WHEREAS, the College Board has recently replaced its brief topic outline with a new,
- 8 lengthy framework for the APUSH course; and

- 9 WHEREAS, the new APUSH framework reflects a seemingly biased view of American
- 10 history that overemphasizes negative aspects of our nation's history while omitting or
- 11 minimizing many positive aspects; and

- 12 WHEREAS, the framework does not include adequate discussion of America's Founding
- 13 Fathers, the principles of the Declaration of Independence, the religious influences on our
- 14 nation's history, and many other critical topics that have long been part of the APUSH
- 15 course; and

- 16 WHEREAS, the framework presents a seemingly biased view of many important themes and
- 17 events in American history, including the motivations and actions of seventeenth to
- 18 nineteenth century settlers, the nature of the American free enterprise system, the causes and
- 19 resolution of the Great Depression, and the development of and victory in the Cold War; and

- 20 WHEREAS, the framework differs materially from the Georgia Performance Standards for
- 21 Social Studies; and

22 WHEREAS, despite offering revisions and clarifications to the framework, the College
23 Board has yet to make substantial changes to the themes and key concepts of the framework,
24 thus requiring all content to be taught in alignment with those themes and concepts; and

25 WHEREAS, to prepare their students for the APUSH examination, Georgia APUSH teachers
26 will naturally teach the APUSH required knowledge through the lens of the APUSH themes
27 and concepts, to the possible detriment of the Georgia Performance Standards; and

28 WHEREAS, the framework may have the effect of diminishing the Georgia Performance
29 Standards.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
31 GEORGIA:

32 (1) That the State Board of Education ask the College Board to create a balanced
33 framework more compatible with the traditional topic outline, which respects and allows
34 flexibility to incorporate the Georgia Performance Standards for Social Studies in
35 classroom teaching and specifically incorporates the Georgia Performance Standards'
36 emphasis on America's founding principles and the uniqueness of America's role in the
37 world;

38 (2) That the State Board of Education ask the College Board to align the APUSH
39 examination with the approach described in paragraph (1) of this resolution and to
40 provide a monthly update to the House Committee on Education and the Senate
41 Education and Youth Committee of progress on examination and framework revisions;

42 (3) That the Georgia congressional delegation is urged to push for greater market
43 competition in funding and sources for advanced placement college credit courses;

44 (4) That the Governor is directed to contact other governors of several or all states to join
45 Georgia in efforts to further market competition in advanced subject based testing for
46 college credit; and

47 (5) That the State Board of Education and the Georgia Department of Education are
48 directed to explore alternatives to the College Board's Advanced Placement program that
49 would allow Georgia students to obtain college credit by mastering the content dictated
50 by Georgia standards, including the possible redirection of state funds for professional
51 development activities, textbooks, or other instructional materials, and that the Governor
52 would seek reciprocity among several or all states and urge them to do likewise.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
54 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the

55 College Board, the State Board of Education, the Georgia Department of Education,
56 Governor Nathan Deal, and each member of the Georgia congressional delegation.