

House Bill 614 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

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 the placement of video monitoring cameras in classrooms providing
4 special education services; to provide for requirements; to provide for funding; to provide
5 for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 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 provide for the placement of video
16 monitoring cameras and equipment by a school in self-contained classrooms in which
17 students receive special education services. The Department of Education is authorized to
18 approve local school systems for participation and may approve local school systems which
19 already utilize video monitoring cameras and equipment in their special education
20 self-contained classrooms through an application process. The department or an approved
21 local school system may approve schools in the local school system for participation. A
22 local school system or school may, in its sole discretion, agree to participate.

23 (b) Participating local school systems or schools shall provide, at a minimum, for:

24 (1) Prior notice of the placement of video monitoring cameras to the parents or guardians
25 of each student in the approved classrooms;

- 26 (2) The retention of videos recorded from video monitoring cameras placed pursuant to
27 this Code section for no less than three months from the date of the recording;
- 28 (3) The coverage by video monitoring cameras of all areas of the approved classrooms,
29 to the extent practical; and
- 30 (4) Procedures and requirements to protect the confidentiality of student records
31 contained in videos recorded from video monitoring cameras placed pursuant to this Code
32 section in accordance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and
33 Article 15 of this chapter.
- 34 (c) The video monitoring cameras shall only be used for purposes of classroom instruction,
35 monitoring classroom interactions, and teacher observation, and review of recorded
36 material shall only be for such purposes, except with the written permission of the parent
37 or guardian of a child or pursuant to the subpoena of a court of competent jurisdiction.
38 Recorded material, including identity of students or demographics of students, shall not be
39 used for marketing purposes.
- 40 (d) The Department of Education shall provide guidelines and criteria regarding the
41 effectiveness, feasibility, and benefits, including any impact on safety, and the Department
42 of Education may require participating local school systems or schools to conduct an
43 evaluation. If the department requires such evaluations, the department shall collect and
44 report the results of such evaluation to the House Committee on Education and the Senate
45 Education and Youth Committee.
- 46 (e)(1) The department shall serve as a state level flow through point for any available
47 state or federal funding.
- 48 (2) Local school systems may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any
49 person or entity for use in placing video monitoring cameras in classrooms pursuant to
50 this Code section."

51 **SECTION 3.**

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