

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth offered the following substitute to HB 759:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-2114 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 qualifications for the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program, so as to revise the prior
3 school year requirement; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
4 other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-2-2114 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to qualifications
8 for the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program, is amended by revising paragraph (3)
9 of subsection (a) as follows:

10 "(3) The student:

11 (A) Has spent the prior school year in attendance at a Georgia public school; provided,
12 however, that this requirement shall not apply if:

13 (i) The ~~the~~ student's parent is an active duty military service member stationed in
14 Georgia within the previous year; ~~or~~

15 (ii) The student previously qualified for a scholarship pursuant to this paragraph;
16 provided, however, that a student may only requalify pursuant to this subdivision one
17 time and such requalification shall be within 18 months of the original qualification;

18 and

19 (B) Has an Individualized Education Program written in accordance with federal and
20 state laws and regulations; provided, however, that the State Board of Education shall
21 be authorized to require a local board of education to expedite the development of an
22 Individualized Education Program and to waive the prior school year requirement
23 contained in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, in its sole discretion, on a case-by-case
24 basis for specific medical needs of the student upon the request of a parent or guardian
25 in accordance with state board procedures. If an expedited Individualized Education
26 Program is required by the state board pursuant to this subparagraph, the state board

27 may additionally require such expedited process to be completed prior to the beginning
28 of the school year. The State Board of Education shall provide an annual report by
29 December 31 of each year through December 31, 2015, regarding the number of
30 waivers approved pursuant to this paragraph to the General Assembly;"

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.