

Senate Resolution 204

By: Senators Anavitarte of the 31st, Payne of the 54th, Tippins of the 37th, Gooch of the 51st, Robertson of the 29th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State Board of Education through the State School Superintendent and the
2 Georgia Department of Education to create multiple diploma pathways for high school
3 students; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, in 2007, the State Board of Education voted to update high school graduation
5 requirements, which eliminated several diploma options in favor of the same diploma option
6 for all high school students; and

7 WHEREAS, the current diploma requirements have shown to be a one-size-fits-all diploma
8 not tailored to the needs and passions of all students, including those wanting to go right into
9 the workforce, technical college, military, or university system; and

10 WHEREAS, multiple diploma pathways can provide the opportunity for high school students
11 to have a pathway to graduation that reflects their post-secondary desires and passions by
12 allowing more opportunities to take courses of interest to students in addition to the core
13 courses all students need to be successful; and

14 WHEREAS, multiple diploma pathways provide more information on types of graduates and
15 increased transparency by providing additional public reporting categories (workforce,
16 technical, military, college/university) for better data on students' needs; and

17 WHEREAS, multiple diploma pathways will streamline counseling and provide students
18 with a more relevant high school experience by tailoring a student's high school experience
19 around their post-secondary goals, increasing relevance and value; and

20 WHEREAS, multiple diploma pathways would be aligned to expectations, putting success
21 within reach for all students; and

22 WHEREAS, multiple diploma pathways will expand options and opportunities for students
23 while not stigmatizing the diploma by eliminating the better than/less than mentality of the
24 prior tracked dual diploma option; and

25 WHEREAS, the State Board of Education must adopt new rules for high school graduation
26 requirements.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 urge the State Board of Education through the Georgia Department of Education and in
29 collaboration with post-secondary, military, business, and industry partners to create multiple
30 diploma pathways and adopt a new graduation rule to affirm this change for high school
31 students.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the members of the
34 State Board of Education.