

House Bill 886 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Caldwell of the 20th, Turner of the 21st, Ramsey of the 72nd, Dudgeon of the 25th, Morgan of the 39th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Chapter 1 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to education, so as to provide that each local board of education and each charter school shall hold at least two public hearings on the proposed budget; to provide that a summary of each proposed budget and each adopted budget shall be posted on the Internet; to provide that the full line item detailed budget shall be made available upon request; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 1 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to education, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"20-1-28.

(a) As used in this Code section, the term:

(1) 'Governing body' means the board, governing council, governing board, or other entity by whatever name responsible for creating and implementing the budget of a local education agency.

(2) 'Local education agency' means any local school system and any charter school subject to the provisions of Chapter 2 of this title.

(b) Each governing body shall hold at least two public hearings on the proposed annual budget before adopting the budget; provided, however, that any other public budget hearing held as required by law shall satisfy all or a portion of such requirement. The governing body of a charter school with a state-wide attendance zone shall conduct one such public hearing in the county in which its primary business office is located and one such public hearing in the metropolitan Atlanta area. Such hearings shall be held as provided in Chapter 14 of Title 50, relating to open and public meetings.

(c) A summary of each proposed budget and each adopted annual budget shall be posted on a publicly available area of such governing body's website. A summary of the final

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27 adopted annual budget shall be posted on a publicly available area of such governing
28 body's website and maintained until the next annual budget is adopted.
29 (d) Each governing body shall provide to any person an electronic copy of the full line
30 item detailed budget in a format suitable for analysis at no cost within three days upon
31 request, and the summary of the budget required by subsection (c) of this Code section
32 shall give notice of that right.
33 (e) The provisions of this Code section shall not apply to any general charter corporation."

34 **SECTION 2.**

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