

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth offered the following substitute to SB 42:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-14-33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 indicators of quality of learning in individual schools and school systems, comparison to state
3 standards, rating schools and school systems, providing information, and uniform definition
4 of "dropout" and "below grade level," so as to provide that the school climate rating does not
5 include discipline data; to provide that local school systems shall publish certain student
6 disciplinary and placement action information for ready access by parents and other
7 community members; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for related matters;
8 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Code Section 20-14-33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to indicators of
12 quality of learning in individual schools and school systems, comparison to state standards,
13 rating schools and school systems, providing information, and uniform definition of
14 "dropout" and "below grade level," is amended by revising subsection (c) as follows:

15 "(c)(1) Performance on the indicators of quality of learning, financial efficiency, school
16 climate, and any other indicators the office adopts shall be compared to state standards,

progress on improved student achievement, and comparable performance. The standards for comparison shall be established by the office as provided in Code Section 20-14-31, in coordination with the Department of Education. Data and information regarding the standards shall be included in the annual report provided for in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Code Section 20-14-27. Financial efficiency may include an analysis of how federal and state funds spent by local school systems impact student achievement and school improvement, and components used to determine financial efficiency may include actual achievement, resource efficiency, and student participation in standardized testing. School climate determinations may utilize data from student health surveys, ~~data on environmental and behavior indicators, data on student behavioral and school-based reactions,~~ and teacher and parent survey instruments; provided, however, that school climate determinations shall not include student discipline data. Financial efficiency and school climate shall have one of the following star ratings based upon the factors included in this subsection, as further defined by rules and regulations of the office:

~~(1)~~(A) '5-star' schools ranked excellent according to the state determined financial efficiency or school climate index, as appropriate;

~~(2)~~(B) '4-star' schools ranked above average according to the state determined financial efficiency or school climate index, as appropriate;

~~(3)~~(C) '3-star' schools ranked average according to the state determined financial efficiency or school climate index, as appropriate;

~~(4)~~(D) '2-star' schools ranked below satisfactory according to the state determined financial efficiency or school climate index, as appropriate; or

~~(5)~~(E) '1-star' schools ranked unsatisfactory according to the state determined financial efficiency or school climate index, as appropriate.

(2) Data and information regarding student discipline shall be included in the annual report provided for in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Code Section 20-14-27.

(3) Each local school system shall publish electronically the reported information regarding student disciplinary and placement actions provided for in subsections (a) and (b) of Code Section 20-2-740 and shall furnish a print copy of the specific information as reported for a particular school to any requester at no charge in a format that can be easily understood by parents and other members of the community who are not educators, and such publication shall include such reported information for each school in the local school system.

(4) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to relieve any school system or school administrator or personnel from any obligation to report a violation of a code of student conduct as provided for by law or policy."

SECTION 2.

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