

ADOPTED

Senator Dolezal of the 27th offered the following amendment #1:

1 *Amend HB 340 (LC 49 1385S) by deleting "Subpart 2 of Part 6 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of "*
2 *from lines 1 and 8.*

3 *By inserting "to provide for appeals and arbitration;" after "definition;" on line 4.*

4 *By deleting "conditions of employment in elementary and secondary" from lines 2 and 9.*

5 *By inserting after line 60 the following:*

6 Said title is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

7 "20-14-97.

8 (a) In the event of a dispute between an accrediting agency and a public school or school
9 system regarding the findings and recommendations of an assessment by the accrediting
10 agency, the public school or school system shall have the right to appeal as follows:

11 (1) The public school or school system may appeal the findings and recommendations
12 within 70 days to an accreditation committee established by the State Board of Education
13 for such appeal and may provide evidence in support of such appeal. The accrediting
14 agency's findings and recommendations which are the subject of such appeal shall be
15 suspended from public access or disclosure during the pendency of such appeal and any
16 arbitration or subsequent appeal;

17 (2) The accreditation committee shall work with the parties to seek a resolution; and

18 (3) Should the parties fail to agree to a resolution, the appealing public school or school
19 system shall have the right to submit the dispute to arbitration under the provisions of
20 Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 9 of Title 9, the 'Georgia Arbitration Code.' The public

21 school or school system and the accrediting agency shall be the parties to such arbitration.

22 The accrediting agency shall be responsible for the costs of such arbitration.

23 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, an arbitrator's decision
24 rendered pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of this Code section may be appealed
25 by either party to the State Board of Education, the ruling of which shall be binding on the
26 parties."

27 **SECTION 3.**