

Senate Bill 152

By: Senators Dolezal of the 27th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Robertson of the 29th, Brass of the 6th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2B of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
 2 promise scholarship accounts, so as to provide that the biological or adopted children of  
 3 individuals who are foster parents and who meet certain conditions shall qualify for promise  
 4 scholarship accounts; to provide for such conditions; to provide for definitions; to provide  
 5 for the education savings authority to make limited disclosures to the Department of Revenue  
 6 for purposes of verifying income as compared to income thresholds; to provide for related  
 7 matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Chapter 2B of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to promise  
 11 scholarship accounts, is amended in Code Section 20-2B-5, relating to powers of the  
 12 education savings authority, by revising subsection (b) and by adding a new subsection to  
 13 read as follows:

14 "(b) ~~Pursuant~~ Except as provided in subsection (d) of this Code section, pursuant to Code  
 15 Section 50-18-70, the education savings authority shall not disclose and shall keep  
 16 confidential, in each case unless identifying information has been redacted:

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17 (1) Records that include information identifying a student or former student by name,  
18 address except for ZIP Code, telephone number, or emergency contact; and

19 (2) Records that reveal an individual's social security number, mother's birth name, credit  
20 card information, debit card information, bank account information, account number,  
21 utility account number, password used to access his or her account, financial data or  
22 information, insurance or medical information in all records, unlisted telephone number  
23 if so designated in a public record, personal email address or cellular telephone number,  
24 or month and day of birth."

25 "(d) As necessary to enforce the provisions of this chapter, the education savings authority  
26 or its duly authorized agents may submit to the state revenue commissioner the names of  
27 applicants for promise scholarship accounts or account funds or other benefits or payments  
28 provided under this chapter, as well as the relevant income threshold specified therein. If  
29 the education savings authority elects to contract with the state revenue commissioner for  
30 such purposes, the state revenue commissioner and his or her agents or employees shall  
31 notify the education savings authority whether each submitted applicant's income exceeds  
32 the relevant income threshold provided. The education savings authority shall pay the state  
33 revenue commissioner for all costs incurred by the Department of Revenue pursuant to this  
34 subsection. No information shall be provided by the Department of Revenue to the  
35 education savings authority without an executed cooperative agreement between the two  
36 entities. Any tax information secured from the federal government by the Department of  
37 Revenue pursuant to express provisions of Section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code may  
38 not be disclosed by the Department of Revenue pursuant to this subsection. Any person  
39 receiving any tax information under the authority of this subsection is subject to the  
40 provisions of Code Section 48-7-60 and to all penalties provided under Code Section  
41 48-7-61 for unlawful divulging of confidential tax information."

42 **SECTION 2.**

43 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

44 "20-2B-22.1.45 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:46 (1) 'Biological or adopted child' means a child who is the biological issue of an  
47 individual or who has been adopted by an individual pursuant to a decree of adoption by  
48 a court of this state or by a court of any other jurisdiction.49 (2) 'Foster parent' means an individual who currently provides or, at any time during the  
50 preceding ten years, has provided care, lodging, supervision, and maintenance for one or  
51 more children in a foster care home used by an agency licensed as a child-placing agency  
52 pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 49 or in a foster care home approved and directly  
53 supervised by the Department of Human Services.54 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of Code Section 20-2B-22 to the contrary, each student  
55 who has reached the age of four years but has not reached the age of 20 years, who is the  
56 biological or adopted child of an individual who is a foster parent, and who meets the  
57 requirements of paragraphs (1), (4), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of subsection (a) of Code Section  
58 20-2B-22 shall qualify for a promise scholarship account under this article."59 **SECTION 3.**

60 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2025.

61 **SECTION 4.**

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