

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth offered the following substitute to SB 171:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to educational programs under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as
3 to require the State Board of Education to develop an advanced mathematics pathway; to
4 require the state board to adopt policies related to such advanced mathematics pathway; to
5 authorize local school systems to offer the advanced mathematics pathway in grades three
6 through five; to require local school systems to offer the advanced mathematics pathway in
7 grades six through eight; to provide for reporting; to authorize local school systems to
8 provide related supports and services; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
9 laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
13 relating to educational programs under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by
14 adding a new Code section to read as follows:

15 "20-2-159.6.

16 (a) On or before January 1, 2027, the State Board of Education shall develop an advanced
17 mathematics pathway for grades three through eight which culminates in students taking
18 a high school level mathematics course in middle school and shall adopt policies for such
19 advanced mathematics pathway. Such policies shall:

20 (1) Provide for criteria for students to qualify for such advanced mathematics pathway;

21 (2) Provide for the automatic enrollment of qualifying students in such advanced
22 mathematics pathway for grades six through eight;

23 (3) Permit the parent or guardian of a student who qualifies for automatic enrollment to
24 opt his or her child out of such automatic enrollment;

25 (4) Ensure that students who are not automatically enrolled in such advanced
26 mathematics pathway shall be enrolled in such pathway upon request of his or her parent
27 or guardian; and

28 (5) Require that information be provided to students and parents or guardians on the
29 advanced mathematics pathway and enrollment in such advanced mathematics pathway.

30 (b)(1) Each local school system shall be authorized to offer the advanced mathematics
31 pathway developed by the State Board of Education in grades three through five. Such
32 local school systems shall be authorized to offer additional supports and services to
33 students enrolled in such pathway and to teachers who provide instruction to students in
34 the advanced mathematics pathway.

35 (2) Each local school system shall offer the advanced mathematics pathway developed
36 by the State Board of Education in grades six through eight.

37 (3) Each local school system shall be authorized to offer additional supports and services
38 to students enrolled in the advanced mathematics pathway.

39 (c) The Department of Education shall submit a report by December 1 of each year to the
40 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
41 chairperson of the Senate Education and Youth Committee, and the chairperson of the

42 House Committee on Education. Such report shall include the following information from
43 each local school system from the preceding school year disaggregated by ethnicity, sex,
44 socioeconomic status, disability, language proficiency, grade level, and school, as
45 applicable:

46 (1) The number of students who qualified for automatic enrollment in the advanced
47 mathematics pathway and were automatically enrolled in the advanced mathematics
48 pathway;

49 (2) The number of students who qualified for automatic enrollment in the advanced
50 mathematics pathway and opted out of such automatic enrollment;

51 (3) The number of students who did not qualify for automatic enrollment and enrolled
52 in the advanced mathematics pathway;

53 (4) A list of courses offered as part of the advanced mathematics pathway and any
54 related services or supports offered to students; and

55 (5) The scores on the end-of-grade assessment in mathematics for each category of
56 students listed in paragraphs (1) through (3) of this subsection."

57 **SECTION 2.**

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