

Senate Bill 472

By: Senators Hickman of the 4th, Walker III of the 20th, Tillery of the 19th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Sims of the 12th and others

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for the suspension of members of local
3 boards of education following certain audit findings or findings by the state auditor of
4 financial mismanagement or misconduct; to provide for employment contract terms,
5 conditions, and limitations for local school superintendents under certain conditions; to
6 provide for a cap on the total amount of advance distributions of state allotted funds that may
7 be made by the State Board of Education to local units of administration; to provide for plans
8 for monitoring, supports, and intervention; to provide for the authority of the state auditor
9 relative to such plans; to amend Chapter 6 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia
10 Annotated, relating to the Department of Audits and Accounts, so as to revise provisions for
11 financial audits of local school systems and state charter schools by and on behalf of the
12 Department of Audits and Accounts; to require the Department of Audits and Accounts to
13 develop and implement a program of progressive monitoring, supports, and interventions
14 to local school systems and state charter schools; to provide for investigations of local school
15 systems by the state auditor; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters;
16 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

S. B. 472

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18

SECTION 1.

19 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
20 secondary education, is amended in Article 3, relating to local boards of education, by
21 revising Code Section 20-2-73, relating to suspension and removal of local school board
22 members upon potential loss of accreditation or when schools in system are turnaround
23 eligible schools, procedures, petition for reinstatement, prohibition on use of public funds for
24 litigation expenses, and reimbursement of expenses, as follows:

25 "20-2-73.

26 (a)(1) Notwithstanding Code Section 20-2-54.1 or any other provisions of law to the
27 contrary, if:

28 (A) A local school system or school is placed on the level of accreditation immediately
29 preceding loss of accreditation for any reason or reasons by one or more accrediting
30 agencies included in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (6) of Code Section 20-3-519, the
31 local board of education shall notify the State Board of Education in writing within
32 three business days of such placement and the State Board of Education shall conduct
33 a hearing in not less than ten days of such notice nor more than 90 days and recommend
34 to the Governor whether to suspend all eligible members of the local board of education
35 with pay; or

36 (B) One-half or more of the schools in a local school system are turnaround eligible
37 schools, as defined in subsection (a) of Code Section 20-14-45, for the fifth or more
38 consecutive year, the Department of Education shall notify the State Board of
39 Education in writing within three business days of the publication of the list of
40 turnaround eligible schools by the Office of Student Achievement, and the State Board
41 of Education with input from the State School Superintendent shall conduct a hearing
42 in not less than ten days of such notice nor more than 90 days and recommend to the
43 Governor whether to suspend all eligible members of the local board of education with
44 pay; provided, however, that this subparagraph shall be tolled for a local board of

45 education while under a contract amendment or intervention contract pursuant to Code
46 Section 20-14-45 so long as such local board of education is in substantial compliance
47 with the terms of such contract amendment or intervention contract; or

48 (C)(i) A local school system is designated by the state auditor as requiring the highest
49 level of monitoring, supports, and interventions promulgated by the Department of
50 Audits and Accounts pursuant to Code Section 50-6-6, the local school superintendent
51 shall notify the State Board of Education in writing within three business days of
52 receiving such designation, and the State Board of Education shall, upon a
53 recommendation of the audit committee of the State Board of Education followed by
54 a majority vote of the State Board of Education, conduct a hearing in not less than ten
55 days of such vote nor more than 90 days and recommend to the Governor whether to
56 suspend any eligible members of the local board of education with pay.

57 (ii) A local board of education, a member thereof, a local school system, or a local
58 school superintendent is the subject of a finding by the state auditor of financial
59 mismanagement or misconduct following an investigation made pursuant to Code
60 Section 50-6-28, the state auditor shall notify the State Board of Education in writing
61 within three business days of such finding, and the State Board of Education shall,
62 upon a recommendation of the audit committee of the State Board of Education
63 followed by a majority vote of the State Board of Education, conduct a hearing in not
64 less than ten days of such vote nor more than 90 days and recommend to the Governor
65 whether to suspend any eligible members of the local board of education with pay.

66 (2) A majority of the members of a local board of education may petition the State Board
67 of Education to continue any hearing scheduled under this subsection. Upon a showing
68 of good cause, the ~~state board~~ State Board of Education may in its sound discretion
69 continue any such hearing. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, deliberations
70 held by the State Board of Education pursuant to this subsection to formulate its
71 recommendation to the Governor shall not be open to the public; provided, however, that

72 testimony shall be taken in an open meeting and a vote on the recommendation shall be
73 taken in an open meeting following the hearing or at the next regularly scheduled
74 meeting. If the State Board of Education makes such recommendation, the Governor
75 may, in his or her discretion, suspend all eligible members of the local board of education
76 with pay and, in consultation with the State Board of Education, appoint temporary
77 replacement members who shall be otherwise qualified to serve as members of such
78 board.

79 (b) Any local board of education member suspended under this Code section may petition
80 the Governor for reinstatement no earlier than 30 days following suspension and no later
81 than 60 days following suspension. In the event that a suspended member does not petition
82 for reinstatement within the allotted time period, his or her suspension shall be converted
83 into permanent removal, and the temporary replacement member shall become a permanent
84 member and serve out the remainder of the term of the removed member.

85 (c) Upon petition for reinstatement by a suspended local board of education member, the
86 Governor or his or her designated agent shall conduct a hearing for the purpose of receiving
87 evidence relative to whether the local board of education member's continued service on
88 the local board of education is more likely than not to improve the ability of the local
89 school system or school to retain or reattain its accreditation; ~~or to improve the ratings of~~
90 ~~the schools in the local school system so that less than one-half of the schools in such local~~
91 ~~school system are on the turnaround eligible schools list in subsequent years; to no longer~~
92 ~~be designated by the state auditor as requiring the highest level of monitoring, supports,~~
93 ~~and interventions promulgated by the Department of Audits and Accounts pursuant to Code~~
94 ~~Section 50-6-6; or to remediate or mitigate the state auditor's finding of financial~~
95 ~~mismanagement or misconduct.~~ The appealing member shall be given at least 30 days'
96 notice prior to such hearing. Such hearing shall be held not later than 90 days after the
97 petition is filed and in accordance with Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia Administrative
98 Procedure Act,' except that the individual conducting the hearing shall have the power to

99 call witnesses and request documents on his or her own initiative. For purposes of said
100 chapter and any hearing conducted pursuant to this Code section, the Governor shall be
101 considered the agency, and the Attorney General or his or her designee shall represent the
102 interests of the Governor in the hearing. If it is determined that it is more likely than not
103 that the local board of education member's continued service on the local board of
104 education improves the ability of the local school system or school to retain or reattain its
105 accreditation; ~~or~~ to improve the ratings of the schools in the local school system so that less
106 than one-half of the schools in such local school system are on the turnaround eligible
107 schools list in subsequent years; to no longer be designated by the state auditor as requiring
108 the highest level of monitoring, supports, and interventions promulgated by the Department
109 of Audits and Accounts pursuant to Code Section 50-6-6; or to remediate or mitigate the
110 state auditor's finding of financial mismanagement or misconduct, the member shall be
111 immediately reinstated; otherwise, the member shall be permanently removed, and the
112 temporary replacement member shall become a permanent member and serve out the
113 remainder of the term of the removed member or until the next general election which is
114 at least six months after the member was permanently removed, whichever is sooner.
115 Judicial review of any such decision shall be in accordance with Chapter 13 of Title 50.

116 (d)(1) Subparagraph ~~(B)~~ of paragraph (1) of subsection ~~(a)~~ (a)(1)(A) of this Code section
117 shall apply to a local school system or school which is placed on the level of accreditation
118 immediately preceding loss of accreditation on or after April 20, 2011.

119 (2) Subparagraph ~~(B)~~ of paragraph (1) of subsection ~~(a)~~ (a)(1)(B) of this Code section
120 shall apply to a local school system which, on or after July 1, 2017, has one-half or more
121 of the schools in the local school system on the turnaround eligible schools list for the
122 fifth or more consecutive year.

123 (3) Subparagraph (a)(1)(C) of this Code section shall apply to a local school system on
124 or after July 1, 2026, if:

125 (A) Such local school system is designated by the state auditor as requiring the highest
 126 level of monitoring, supports, and interventions promulgated by the Department of
 127 Audits and Accounts pursuant to Code Section 50-6-6; or

128 (B) Such local school system, the local board of education or a member thereof, or the
 129 local school superintendent is the subject of a finding of financial mismanagement or
 130 misconduct.

131 (e) For purposes of this Code section, an eligible member of a local board of education
 132 shall mean a board member who:

133 (1) Was serving on the local board of education at the time the accrediting agency placed
 134 the local school system or school on the level of accreditation immediately preceding loss
 135 of accreditation; ~~or~~

136 (2) Was serving on the local board of education at the time the local school system had
 137 one-half or more of the schools in the local school system on the turnaround eligible
 138 schools list for the fifth or more consecutive year and had served on the local board of
 139 education for at least the immediately preceding two years;

140 (3) Was serving on the local board of education at the time the local school system was
 141 designated by the state auditor as requiring the highest level of monitoring, supports, and
 142 interventions promulgated by the Department of Audits and Accounts pursuant to Code
 143 Section 50-6-6; or

144 (4) Was serving on the local board of education at the time the local board of education
 145 or a member thereof, the local school system, or the local school superintendent was the
 146 subject of a finding of financial mismanagement or misconduct.

147 (f) A local board of education shall not expend any public funds for attorney's fees or
 148 expenses of litigation relating to proceedings initiated pursuant to this Code section except
 149 to the extent such fees and expenses are incurred prior to and through the recommendation
 150 of the ~~state board~~ State Board of Education as provided for in subsection (a) of this Code
 151 section; provided, however, that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit

152 an insurance provider from covering attorney's fees or expenses of litigation under an
153 insurance policy.

154 (g) Any suspended board member who is reinstated by the Governor pursuant to this Code
155 section may be reimbursed by the local board of education for his or her reasonable
156 attorney's fees and related expenses incurred in pursuing such reinstatement."

157 **SECTION 2.**

158 Said chapter is further amended in Article 5, relating to local school superintendents, by
159 revising Code Section 20-2-101, relating to appointment of school superintendents, as
160 follows:

161 "20-2-101.

162 (a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, each local school
163 superintendent ~~Superintendents of each school system~~ shall be employed by the local
164 board of education under written contracts for a term of not less than one year and not
165 more than three years. Any provision of any such contract which provides for an
166 extension of the duration of employment thereunder, whether automatic or contingent
167 upon the occurrence of one or more events, shall be void if that extension would result
168 in employment under the contract, as extended, for a period which exceeds three years.

169 (2) At any time a local school system is designated as a high-risk local school system by
170 the Department of Audits and Accounts pursuant to Code Section 20-2-67, the local
171 school superintendent's contract of employment shall not be extended for a term which
172 exceeds 12 months. Any such term which exceeds 12 months shall be void.

173 (3) Any contract by which a local school superintendent is employed by a local board of
174 education that is entered into or renewed on or after July 1, 2026, shall include terms and
175 conditions that shall have the following effect:

176 (A) It shall be an act of default for the local school superintendent to be the subject of
177 a finding by the state auditor of financial mismanagement or misconduct following an
178 investigation made pursuant to Code Section 50-6-28;

179 (B) It shall be an act of default for the local school superintendent to be the subject of
180 a finding by the state auditor that the local school superintendent has knowingly failed
181 or refused to comply with a material requirement of a plan for intervention or other
182 corrective action plan put in place in conjunction with the local school system being
183 designated by the state auditor as requiring the highest level of monitoring, supports,
184 and interventions promulgated by the Department of Audits and Accounts pursuant to
185 Code Section 50-6-6; and

186 (C) In the event of an act of default provided for in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this
187 paragraph, the local board of education shall be authorized to terminate the employment
188 contract of the local school superintendent for cause.

189 (b)(1) No person shall be eligible to be appointed or employed or to serve as a local
190 school superintendent of schools of any county or independent school system unless such
191 person is of good moral character, has never been convicted of any crime involving moral
192 turpitude, and possesses acceptable business or management experience as specified by
193 the Professional Standards Commission or the minimum valid certificate or a letter of
194 eligibility for said certificate required by the Professional Standards Commission.

195 (2) No person shall be eligible to be appointed or employed; or to serve as a local school
196 superintendent of schools of any county or independent school system who has an
197 immediate family member sitting on the local board of education for ~~such~~ the local school
198 system or who has an immediate family member hired as or promoted to a principal,
199 assistant principal, or system administrative staff on or after July 1, 2009, by ~~that~~ such
200 local school system. As used in this ~~subsection~~ paragraph, the term 'immediate family
201 member' means a spouse, child, sibling, or parent or the spouse of a child, sibling, or
202 parent whose term as a member of the local board of education or whose employment as

203 a principal, assistant principal, or system administrative staff in the local school system
204 began on or after January 1, 2010. Nothing in this ~~Code section~~ paragraph shall affect
205 the employment of any person who is employed by a local school system on or before
206 July 1, 2009, or who is employed by a local school system when an immediate family
207 member becomes the local school superintendent for ~~that~~ such local school system.

208 (c) ~~Superintendents~~ Local school superintendents shall have such additional qualifications
209 as may be prescribed by local law or policies of the local board of education for ~~that school~~
210 ~~district~~, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter.

211 (d) At any time during the 12 months immediately preceding the expiration of an
212 appointed local school superintendent's contract or term of office, or when a vacancy in the
213 office of local school superintendent occurs, the local board of education may appoint and
214 employ a successor local school superintendent in accordance with the above provisions
215 of this Code section, notwithstanding that the terms of some or all of the local board of
216 education members will expire before ~~the employment of the superintendent so appointed~~
217 ~~and employed~~ such employment begins.

218 (e) A local school superintendent may concurrently serve as a principal, teacher, or in
219 another staff position as directed by the local board of education in its sole discretion and
220 in accordance with the terms of the contract between the local school superintendent and
221 the local board of education. A local school superintendent may also serve concurrently
222 as local school superintendent of one or more local school systems in accordance with the
223 terms of his or her respective contracts and upon approval by each affected local school
224 system.

225 (f) No substantive or procedural right regarding employment or termination of
226 employment of a local school superintendent by a local school system shall be created by
227 this Code section. Rather, the terms and conditions of employment of a local school
228 superintendent by a local school system shall be determined exclusively by the contract
229 between those parties and may include, without being limited to, the conditions under and

230 procedures by which ~~that~~ such contract may be terminated prior to the end of the term of
 231 ~~that~~ such contract."

232 **SECTION 3.**

233 Said chapter is further amended in Part 4 of Article 6, relating to financing under the "Quality
 234 Basic Education Act," by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-166, relating to state
 235 funds, calculation, allotment, and distribution, as follows:

236 "(b)(1) The State Board of Education shall, by regulation, provide for distribution of state
 237 funds allotted to local units of administration under this article and budgets approved by
 238 ~~the state board~~ State Board of Education. The state board is authorized to provide for
 239 distribution of such state allotted funds to local units of administration at such times and
 240 in such manner as will most likely meet the periodic needs of local units for the state
 241 allotted funds, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection. In determining the
 242 time and manner for distribution of state allotted funds, ~~the state board~~ State Board of
 243 Education may consider the time at which local school tax funds shall be collected and
 244 made available to local units of administration. State allotted funds to be distributed to
 245 local units under this article shall be withdrawn from the state treasury on requisitions to
 246 be signed by the State School Superintendent, which shall be signed in accordance with
 247 such regulations and directions of ~~the state board~~ State Board of Education.

248 (2)(A) Except as provided for in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the aggregate of
 249 state allotted funds distributed by the State Board of Education to a local unit of
 250 administration in advance of the routine periodic allotments established by the Office
 251 of Planning and Budget shall not exceed an amount that is equal to 50 percent of the
 252 total of such local unit's state allotted funds for the preceding fiscal year.

253 (B) In the event that a local unit of administration requests or, in the opinion of the
 254 state auditor, requires an advance distribution by the State Board of Education of state
 255 allotted funds that would exceed the limit provided for in subparagraph (A) of this

256 paragraph, the State Board of Education shall be authorized to make advance
257 distributions that exceed the limit provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph
258 only under the following conditions:

259 (i) The state auditor shall provide a written opinion to the State Board of Education
260 that such advance distribution is necessary and appropriate to improve the conditions
261 of the financial operations of the local unit of administration and shall include with
262 such opinion a plan for monitoring, supports, and intervention for the local unit of
263 administration developed by the Department of Audits and Accounts in consultation
264 with the Department of Education and the local unit of administration to the extent the
265 local unit of administration participates in such consultation. The local unit of
266 administration shall have the opportunity to request modification of the proposed
267 plan; provided, however, that the plan to be implemented shall be determined by the
268 state auditor;

269 (ii) Within 30 days of the date of such proposed plan, the local board of education or
270 other governing body of the local unit of administration shall adopt a resolution
271 stating that the local board of education or other governing body of the local unit of
272 administration and the officers, employees, and agents of such local unit of
273 administration shall strictly comply with the plan for the duration of such plan;

274 (iii) The State Board of Education shall not authorize an advance distribution of any
275 state allotted funds to the local unit of administration without a recommendation in
276 writing from the state auditor;

277 (iv) The plan may be modified by the state auditor upon written notice to the State
278 Board of Education and the local unit of administration; and

279 (v) The plan shall remain in effect until concluded in writing by the state auditor."

280 **SECTION 4.**

281 Chapter 6 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department
282 of Audits and Accounts, is amended by revising Code Section 50-6-6, relating to audit of
283 school and university systems, additional audits authorized, standards, and reports, as
284 follows:

285 "50-6-6.

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

287 (1) 'Local school system' means and includes each local school system and each
288 completion special school, as provided for in Article 31C of this chapter, in this state.

289 (2) 'State charter school' shall have the same meaning as set forth in Code
290 Section 20-2-2081.

291 (a.1) It shall be the duty of the Department of Audits and Accounts to:

292 (1) Perform or cause to be performed an annual financial and compliance audit of
293 financial transactions and accounts of:

294 (A) Each local school system and state charter school; and ~~thoroughly to audit and~~
295 ~~check the books and accounts of the county superintendents of schools and treasurers~~
296 ~~of local school systems, of municipal systems, of the~~

297 (B) The several units of the University System of Georgia, and of all other schools
298 receiving state aid; and ~~making~~

299 (2) Issue in conjunction with each such audit required under paragraph (1) of this
300 subsection suitable reports that comply with state and federal rules and regulations for
301 such audits ~~regular and annual reports to the State School Superintendent, showing the~~
302 ~~amount received, for what purpose received, and for what purposes expended.~~

303 (a.2) By July 1, 2026, the Department of Audits and Accounts shall develop and begin
304 implementing a program, the purpose of which is to:

305 (1) Monitor the fiscal condition of each local school system and state charter school in
306 this state;

307 (2) Provide progressive levels of monitoring, supports, and interventions to local school
308 systems and state charter schools, ranging from technical assistance and audit services
309 to significant interventions including strict compliance requirements; and
310 (3) Provide reports of the fiscal condition of local school systems and state charter
311 schools at appropriate intervals.

312 (a.3) No state aid or public All such funds of any kind shall be held by officials any
313 official or employee of any local board of education or other public school governing body,
314 local school system, state charter school, institution of the University System of Georgia,
315 or any other school receiving state aid for any length of time in one or more of his or her
316 must be kept in banks separate from their individual bank accounts.

317 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the local boards each local board
318 of education of the several county, independent, and area public school systems of this state
319 or other public school governing body shall be authorized to have an additional audit made
320 of the books, records, and accounts financial affairs and transactions of all funds and
321 activities of the public school system schools over which any such board or governing body
322 has jurisdiction; provided, however, that such additional audit authorized under this
323 subsection shall not be relied upon by a local school system or state charter school in lieu
324 of the audit by the Department of Audits and Accounts required under subsection (a.1) of
325 this Code section, nor shall such additional audit be deemed to satisfy the requirements of
326 subsection (a.1) of this Code section, except as provided for in subsection (e) of this Code
327 section. The local boards of education Such boards and governing bodies shall be
328 authorized to employ certified public accountants of this state to make the additional audits
329 authorized under this subsection and to expend funds for the such audits which are received
330 by any such board or governing body for educational purposes. Each report of any audit
331 conducted as provided for in this subsection shall be completed and a copy of such report
332 shall be forwarded to the Department of Audits and Accounts within ten days of such
333 report being issued to the local school system.

334 ~~(c) All audits of such public school systems provided for in subsections (a.1), (b), and (e)~~
335 ~~of this Code section shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted~~
336 ~~governmental auditing standards over financial statements in conformity with generally~~
337 ~~accepted accounting principles of governmental accounting or other basis of accounting~~
338 ~~authorized by this Code section and shall include tests of the accounting records and other~~
339 ~~auditing procedures as considered necessary in the circumstances of such audit. conformity~~
340 ~~with generally accepted standards and principles of governmental accounting and auditing~~
341 ~~and Such audits shall be subject to the standards, rules, and ethics promulgated by the~~
342 ~~Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified~~
343 ~~Public Accountants. The audit report of each such audit shall include the auditor's~~
344 ~~unqualified opinion upon the presentation of the financial position and the results of the~~
345 ~~operations of the public local school system or state charter school which is audited. If the~~
346 ~~auditor is unable to express an unqualified opinion, he shall so state and shall further detail~~
347 ~~the reasons for qualification or disclaimer of opinion including recommendations necessary~~
348 ~~to make possible future unqualified opinions.~~

349 ~~(d) The Department of Audits and Accounts shall establish minimum audit readiness~~
350 ~~requirements and audit scheduling priorities based on risk assessment, readiness, and~~
351 ~~available resources. The Department of Audits and Accounts shall be authorized to delay~~
352 ~~the commencement of an audit when minimum readiness requirements are not met.~~
353 ~~Repeated failure to meet audit readiness requirements in a timely manner may be deemed~~
354 ~~by the Department of Audits and Accounts to constitute a deficiency in internal control or~~
355 ~~governance and may be reported as such in audit findings. The Department of Audits and~~
356 ~~Accounts shall report chronic audit readiness failures to the State Board of Education and~~
357 ~~the General Assembly.~~

358 ~~(e)(1) The state auditor shall have discretionary authority to engage certified public~~
359 ~~accountants of this state to perform audits required under subsection (a.1) of this Code~~
360 ~~section and to authorize local school systems and state charter schools to engage certified~~

361 public accountants to perform audits required under subsection (a.1) of this Code section;
362 provided, however, that such certified public accountants shall comply with requirements
363 set forth by the Department of Audits and Accounts as it relates to scope, methodology,
364 state compliance procedures, and risk assessment; and, provided, further, that no local
365 school system or state charter school shall engage a certified public accountant or any
366 other person or organization to perform such an audit without written authorization from
367 the state auditor.

368 (2) The state auditor shall annually submit a written report to the State Board of
369 Education of the local school systems and state charter schools that were audited by
370 certified public accountants pursuant to this subsection.

371 (f) The Department of Audits and Accounts shall adopt rules, regulations, guidance, and
372 procedures necessary to implement this Code section."

373 **SECTION 5.**

374 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 50-6-28, relating to investigatory
375 duties generally, as follows:

376 "50-6-28.

377 (a) It shall be the duty of the state auditor to make an investigation as a part of his or her
378 audit of each and every department of the state government. When there are facts, records,
379 circumstances, or information that indicate mismanagement or misconduct on the part of
380 any official or employee of any department of the state government during either a past or
381 present administration, it shall be the duty of the state auditor to make the full investigation,
382 as provided in Code Section 50-6-29, of the department, official, or employee.

383 (b) The state auditor shall be authorized to make an investigation of any local school
384 system or state charter school, as such terms are defined in Code Section 50-6-6, in the
385 state. When there are facts, records, circumstances, or information that indicate
386 mismanagement or misconduct on the part of any official or employee of any local school

387 system in the state during either a past or present administration of the local school system,
388 it shall be the duty of the state auditor to make the full investigation, as provided in Code
389 Section 50-6-29, of the local school system, official, or employee."

390 **SECTION 6.**

391 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
392 without such approval.

393 **SECTION 7.**

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