

House Bill 822

By: Representatives Carpenter of the 4th, Daniel of the 117th, Cooper of the 45th, and Silcox of the 53rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to competencies and core curriculum under the "Quality Basic Education
3 Act," so as to provide that the prescribed course of study in sex education and HIV
4 prevention instruction is age appropriate and medically accurate; to include the subject of
5 consent in such course of study; to provide for implementation; to provide for related
6 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to competencies and core curriculum under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is
11 amended by revising Code Section 20-2-143, relating to sex education and AIDS prevention
12 instruction, implementation, and student exemption, as follows:

13 "20-2-143.

14 (a) Each local board of education shall prescribe a an age-appropriate and medically
15 accurate course of study in sex education and ~~AIDS~~ human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
16 prevention instruction for such grades and grade levels in the public school system as shall

17 be determined by the State Board of Education. Such course of study shall implement
18 either the minimum course of study provided for in subsection (b) of this Code section or
19 its equivalent, as approved by the State Board of Education. Each local board of education
20 shall be authorized to supplement and develop the exact approach of content areas of such
21 minimum course of study with such specific curriculum standards as it may deem
22 appropriate. Such standards shall include age-appropriate and medically accurate
23 ~~instruction relating to~~ concerning consent, the handling of peer pressure, the promotion of
24 high self-esteem, local community values, the legal consequences of parenthood, and
25 abstinence from sexual activity as an effective method of prevention of pregnancy, sexually
26 transmitted diseases, and ~~acquired immune deficiency syndrome~~ HIV.

27 (b) The State Board of Education shall prescribe a an age-appropriate and medically
28 accurate minimum course of study in sex education and ~~AIDS~~ human immunodeficiency
29 virus (HIV) prevention instruction which may be included as a part of a course of study in
30 comprehensive health education for such grades and grade levels in the public school
31 system as shall be determined by the state board and shall establish standards for its
32 administration. The course may include age-appropriate and medically accurate instruction
33 concerning human biology, conception, pregnancy, birth, sexually transmitted diseases, and
34 ~~acquired immune deficiency syndrome~~ HIV. The course shall include age-appropriate and
35 medically accurate instruction concerning the legal consequences of parenthood, including,
36 without being limited to, the legal obligation of both parents to support a child and legal
37 penalties or restrictions upon failure to support a child, including, without being limited to,
38 the possible suspension or revocation of a parent's driver's license and occupational or
39 professional licenses. The course shall ~~also~~ include annual age-appropriate instruction for
40 students in kindergarten through grade nine concerning awareness and prevention of sexual
41 ~~abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in kindergarten through grade nine.~~
42 A manual setting out the details of such course of study shall be prepared by or approved

43 by the State School Superintendent in cooperation with the Department of Public Health,
44 the State Board of Education, and such expert advisers as they may choose.

45 (c) The minimum course of study to be prescribed by the State Board of Education
46 pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section shall be ready for implementation not later
47 than ~~July 1, 1988~~ August 1, 2024. Each local board shall implement either such minimum
48 course of study or its equivalent not later than July 1, ~~1989~~ 2025. Any local board of
49 education which fails to comply with this subsection shall not be eligible to receive any
50 state funding under this article until such minimum course of study or its equivalent has
51 been implemented.

52 (d) Any parent or legal guardian of a child to whom the course of study set forth in this
53 Code section is to be taught shall have the right to elect, in writing, that such child not
54 receive such course of study."

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SECTION 2.

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