

Senate Bill 202

By: Senators Rahman of the 5th, Hatchett of the 50th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Orrock of the 36th, Goodman of the 8th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 11 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to public school property and facilities, so as to provide for an outdoor learning
3 spaces pilot program; to provide for a pilot program evaluation and report; to provide for
4 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Article 11 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 public school property and facilities, is amended by adding a new part to read as follows:

9 Part 4

10 20-2-590.

11 (a) The Department of Education is authorized to establish a pilot program, beginning in
12 the 2023-2024 school year, to provide for the development and study of outdoor learning
13 spaces on elementary and secondary school property. The purpose of the pilot program
14 shall be to determine whether and how to implement best practices and design standards
15 for outdoor learning spaces.

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16 (b) The Department of Education is authorized to select elementary or secondary schools
17 with sufficient existing or potential outdoor learning spaces for participation in the pilot
18 program as pilot schools. Private, nonprofit, and local school system funding may be
19 utilized by the pilot schools for community engagement, school grounds design support,
20 and capital construction costs. The local board of education for each pilot school shall
21 agree to implement a program to incorporate outdoor learning spaces into the existing
22 curriculum and to continue to provide such program for a period no shorter than three
23 years.

24 (c) The Department of Education shall provide for an evaluation regarding the success and
25 impact of the pilot program upon completion of the third year of the pilot program and
26 shall report the results of such evaluation to the House Committee on Education and the
27 Senate Education and Youth Committee."

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SECTION 2.

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.