

House Bill 713 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Nix of the 69th, Davis of the 109th, Carter of the 175th, Coleman of the 97th, Kaiser of the 59th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to delay implementation of some career
3 and college readiness initiatives until the 2013-2014 school year; to require career education
4 in grades kindergarten through 12; to change the assessment for postsecondary readiness to
5 the end of the eleventh grade; to mandate transitional courses; to provide for related matters;
6 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
10 "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section
11 20-2-140, relating to the establishment of competencies and a uniformly sequenced core
12 curriculum, as follows:

13 "(c) The State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia shall require its
14 institutions to accept core curriculum coursework completed by high school students for
15 purposes of admission into its institutions. This Code section shall apply beginning with
16 students entering such postsecondary institutions in the fall of ~~2012~~ 2013."

17 **SECTION 2.**

18 Said article is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

19 "20-2-145.1.

20 The State Board of Education shall prescribe a minimum course of study in career
21 education for students in grades kindergarten through 12. Such minimum course of study
22 shall be age appropriate and shall include, but not be limited to, career awareness, career
23 exploration, and career oriented learning experiences."

24 **SECTION 3.**

25 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 20-2-159.1, relating to focused
26 programs of study, as follows:

27 "20-2-159.1.

28 No later than July 1, ~~2012~~ 2013, the Department of Education shall develop, and the State
29 Board of Education shall approve, state models and curriculum framework for the
30 following focused programs of study, as defined in Code Section 20-2-326, including, but
31 not limited to:

- 32 (1) Agriculture, food, and natural resources;
- 33 (2) Architecture and construction;
- 34 (3) Arts, audio-video technology, and communications;
- 35 (4) Business, management, and administration;
- 36 (5) Education and training;
- 37 (6) Finance;
- 38 (7) Health science;
- 39 (8) Hospitality and tourism;
- 40 (9) Human services;
- 41 (10) Information technology;
- 42 (11) Law, public safety, and security;
- 43 (12) Manufacturing;
- 44 (13) Government and public administration;
- 45 (14) Marketing, sales, and service;
- 46 (15) Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and
- 47 (16) Transportation, distribution, and logistics.

48 Such focused programs of study may be combined around these and other related clusters."

49 **SECTION 4.**

50 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 20-2-159.2, relating to coordination
51 between high schools and postsecondary institutions to minimize the need for remedial
52 course work for students in postsecondary institutions, as follows:

53 "20-2-159.2.

54 Stronger coordination between high schools and institutions of higher education is
55 necessary to prepare students for more challenging postsecondary endeavors and to lessen
56 the need for academic remediation in college, thereby reducing the costs of higher
57 education for students, families, and the state. To this end, the State Board of Education,
58 the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and the State Board of the
59 Technical College System of Georgia shall:

- 60 (1) Develop policies to ensure that students who complete the core curriculum
 61 established pursuant to Code Section 20-2-140 will meet the requirements for purposes
 62 of admission into a postsecondary institution, such as grade point average and readiness
 63 levels in reading, writing, and mathematics, without having to take remedial coursework.
 64 Such policies shall:
- 65 (A) Establish the benchmarks for college readiness and the method in which students
 66 can demonstrate readiness in reading, writing, and mathematics for postsecondary
 67 coursework upon completing the core curriculum; and
- 68 (B) Set the conditions for ensuring college readiness;
- 69 (2) Define college-readiness standards in reading, writing, and mathematics needed for
 70 success in advanced training, certificate programs, and programs leading to an associate's
 71 or bachelor's degree;
- 72 (3) Identify one or more state-wide common assessments to determine postsecondary
 73 readiness in reading, writing, and mathematics and inform students of their performance
 74 on such assessments no later than the end of tenth grade;
- 75 (4) Develop transitional courses in reading, writing, and mathematics, with common
 76 standards, syllabus, and instruction materials for eleventh and twelfth grade students who
 77 fail to meet readiness standards, which courses shall be required by the state board to be
 78 offered by all local boards of education and which all students who are identified
 79 pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection as failing to meet readiness standards shall
 80 be required to take; and
- 81 (5) Establish a state-wide process for determining how successful completion of
 82 transitional courses will guarantee that students will meet readiness standards; and
 83 ~~(5)~~(6) Ensure dual credit courses reflect postsecondary coursework."

84 **SECTION 5.**

85 Said article is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-159.4,
 86 relating to policies and guidelines for awarding units of high school credit based on
 87 demonstrated proficiency, as follows:

88 "(a) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the Board of Regents of the
 89 University System of Georgia and the State Board of the Technical College System of
 90 Georgia, shall adopt policies and establish guidelines for awarding units of high school
 91 credit to students based on a demonstration of subject area competency, instead of or in
 92 combination with completion of courses of classroom instruction. Such policies and
 93 guidelines shall clearly delineate the manner in which students can earn credit, how
 94 mastery of standards will be assessed, how locally developed assessments will be reviewed
 95 and approved, how such credit will be recorded on high school transcripts, and when

96 outcomes as a result of these policies and guidelines will be reviewed. The state board
97 shall adopt such policies and establish guidelines, and such policies and guidelines shall
98 be applicable beginning with the ~~2012-2013~~ 2013-2014 school year."

99

SECTION 6.

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