

House Bill 1396

By: Representatives Bell of the 75th, McClain of the 109th, Sharper of the 177th, and Holly of the 116th

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, so as to require public schools to
3 implement an English and Spanish dual language immersion program for students in
4 kindergarten through grade five; to require the State Board of Education to adopt content
5 standards; to provide for the Department of Education to provide guidance and technical
6 assistance; to provide for related 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, is amended by adding a new Code section to
11 read as follows:

12 "20-2-149.5.

13 (a) By January 1, 2025, the State Board of Education shall adopt content standards for the
14 minimum course of study for an English and Spanish dual language immersion program
15 for students in kindergarten through grade five that provides at least one hour per day of
16 instruction in the Spanish language.

17 (b) Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year and continuing each school year thereafter,
18 each local board of education or other governing body of a public school shall implement
19 an English and Spanish dual language immersion program for students in kindergarten
20 through grade five consistent with the content standards provided for in subsection (a) of
21 this Code section.

22 (c) The Department of Education shall be authorized to provide guidance and technical
23 assistance to local school systems and public schools for identifying those students who are
24 heritage or native speakers or who have more than a minimal prior knowledge of the
25 Spanish language."

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.