

House Bill 1679

By: Representative Lim of the 99<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 Department of Labor, so as to provide for a pilot program to develop and implement  
3 employment training programs; to provide for program standards; to provide for annual  
4 reporting; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department  
8 of Labor, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

9 "34-2-17.

10 (a) The Commissioner shall be authorized to conduct a pilot program to provide for the  
11 development and implementation of employment training programs to persons residing  
12 within a state enterprise zone designated pursuant to Chapter 88 of Title 36 or an area  
13 where a local governing authority has adopted an urban redevelopment plan pursuant to  
14 Chapter 61 of Title 36. The purpose of the pilot program shall be to determine whether and  
15 how to implement similar employment training programs state wide.

16 (b) The pilot program provided for by this Code section shall increase training  
17 opportunities in the areas of construction and transportation, customer service, clean  
18 energy, real estate, sustainable agricultural, early child care and learning, and health care.  
19 Such program shall focus on participation by individuals eligible for funding under  
20 29 U.S.C. Section 3101, the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Subject  
21 to appropriation of funds by the General Assembly for such purposes, the pilot program  
22 may offer stipends and wage subsidies to training participants or grants to training program  
23 providers.

24 (c) In designing the pilot program, the Commissioner shall:

25 (1) Obtain input from and be authorized to work with the Department of Agriculture, the  
26 Department of Early Care and Learning, the Technical College System of Georgia, the  
27 Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of Economic Development; and

28 (2) Take into consideration issues faced by persons with historical barriers to  
29 employment or who are underrepresented in the workforce, including persons who have  
30 faced discrimination based on race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, refugee  
31 status, and national origin; persons in recovery; persons with a history of incarceration;  
32 and persons with disabilities.

33 (d) Annually for the duration of the pilot program, the Commissioner shall submit a  
34 detailed written report on the implementation and effectiveness of the pilot program to the  
35 Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate.  
36 The final report shall also include recommendations as to expansion of the pilot program  
37 state wide."

38 **SECTION 2.**

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