

House Bill 296 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Nix of the 69<sup>th</sup>, Clark of the 101<sup>st</sup>, Dudgeon of the 25<sup>th</sup>, Beskin of the 54<sup>th</sup>, Kaiser of the 59<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-2114 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 qualifications for the scholarship program for special needs students, so as to expand  
3 eligibility for the program to certain lawful refugees; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-2-2114 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to qualifications  
8 for the scholarship program for special needs students, is amended by revising subsection (a)  
9 as follows:

10 "(a) A student shall qualify for a scholarship under this article if:

11 (1) The student's parent currently resides within Georgia and has been a Georgia resident  
12 for at least one year; provided, however, that the one-year requirement shall not apply if  
13 the student is a lawful refugee as defined by Title I of the federal Immigration and  
14 Nationality Act;

15 (2) The student:

16 (A) Has ~~has~~ one or more of the following disabilities:

17 ~~(A)~~(i) Autism;

18 ~~(B)~~(ii) Deaf/blind;

19 ~~(C)~~(iii) Deaf/hard of hearing;

20 ~~(D)~~(iv) Emotional and behavioral disorder;

21 ~~(E)~~(v) Intellectual disability;

22 ~~(F)~~(vi) Orthopedic impairment;

23 ~~(G)~~(vii) Other health impairment;

24 ~~(H)~~(viii) Specific learning disability;

25 ~~(I)~~(ix) Speech-language impairment;

26 ~~(J)~~(x) Traumatic brain injury; or

