

The House Committee on Education offers the following substitute to HB 971:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 15 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to miscellaneous provisions, so as to allow home study and private
3 school students to take the PSAT/NMSQT and advanced placement exams through a local
4 school system under certain conditions; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for
5 posting of administration dates; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 15 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to miscellaneous provisions, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as
11 follows:

12 "20-2-324.4.

13 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

14 (1) In 2015, Governor Nathan Deal established the Governor's Education Reform
15 Commission to look at ways to reshape and revolutionize Georgia's education system;

16 (2) The commission submitted its final report to Governor Nathan Deal on
17 December 15, 2015, including recommendations from its five subcommittees; and

18 (3) Recommendation 17 of the Expanding Educational Options and School Choice
19 Subcommittee included the following recommendation: 'Require local school systems
20 that offer PSAT or AP testing on site to their students to offer such testing equally to
21 students in private schools, Non-Traditional Educational Centers, or home educated
22 students who reside within the school system attendance zone.'

23 (b) Each local school system that offers the PSAT/NMSQT or advanced placement exams
24 to its students shall consider if it is possible to make such exams available to any student
25 who is in a home study program or private school, who resides within the local school
26 system, and who is not provided the opportunity in his or her program or private school to

27 take the PSAT/NMSQT or advanced placement exams along with public school students.
28 Such exams shall be provided at a cost of no more than 10 percent above the cost to public
29 school students. The local school system and individual school may assess reasonable
30 administrative fees in the same manner as for public school students. If any special
31 equipment is necessary to take advanced placement exams, it shall be provided by the
32 home study student or private school student.

33 (c) Each local school system and individual school that offers the PSAT/NMSQT or
34 advanced placement exams to its students shall when possible post on its website the date
35 the PSAT/NMSQT shall be administered and the date any advanced placement exam shall
36 be administered. The notices provided under this subsection shall include registration dates
37 and procedures and shall state that the PSAT/NMSQT and advanced placement exams are
38 available for home study students and private school students who are not provided the
39 opportunity in their program or private school to take such exam or exams."

40

SECTION 2.

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