

Senate Bill 123

By: Senators Anavitarte of the 31st, Dixon of the 45th, Payne of the 54th, Halpern of the 39th, Albers of the 56th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 12 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to effectiveness of educational programs, so as to require the state funded
3 administration of a nationally recognized career and college readiness assessment and an
4 assessment leading to a nationally recognized workforce credential to public school students
5 in grades 11 and 12 who choose to participate; to provide for the Department of Education
6 to coordinate assessment administration with local school superintendents and school
7 principals and to ensure that students transitioning to and from the Department of Juvenile
8 Justice are included; to prohibit the use of exam results in education accountability programs
9 except as determined by the State Board of Education; to provide for parents and guardians
10 to opt their children out of participating in such assessments; to provide for related matters;
11 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

13 **SECTION 1.**

14 Part 12 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
15 relating to effectiveness of educational programs, is amended by adding a new Code section
16 to read as follows:

17 "20-2-281.2.

18 (a) Each public school and local school system with students in grades 11 and 12 and the
19 Department of Juvenile Justice shall select and administer, with state funding, a nationally
20 recognized career and college readiness assessment and an assessment leading to a
21 nationally recognized workforce credential to public school students enrolled in grades 11
22 and 12 who choose to participate. The exam administration shall occur during normal
23 school hours and shall be school wide and system wide. All students in grades 11 and 12
24 shall have the opportunity to participate in such administrations.

25 (b) The Department of Education shall coordinate with local school superintendents and
26 school principals, or their equivalent, regarding the timing of the administration of the
27 assessments provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section and to ensure that students
28 transitioning to and from the Department of Juvenile Justice are included in such
29 administrations.

30 (c) No exam result shall be part of any accountability assessment program provided for in
31 Chapter 14 of this title except as determined by the State Board of Education.

32 (d) In the event that a parent or guardian of a student elects for their child not to participate
33 in the administration of an assessment provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section,
34 such student's school or school system shall not administer the assessment to that student."

35 **SECTION 2.**

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