

Senate Bill 147

By: Senators Still of the 48th, Dolezal of the 27th, Robertson of the 29th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Dixon of the 45th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the  
2 "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to permit student transfers between local school  
3 systems without contracts between the local school system where the student resides and the  
4 local school system where the student seeks to enroll; to require the State Board of Education  
5 to provide for procedures for such student transfers; to provide for related matters; to provide  
6 for a short title; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Boundless Opportunities for Georgia  
10 Students Act."

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 Part 13 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
13 relating to organization of schools and systems under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is  
14 amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-293, relating to student attending  
15 school in system other than system of student's residence, as follows:

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16 "(a) The provisions of this article and other statutes to the contrary notwithstanding, the  
17 State Board of Education ~~is authorized to~~ shall provide a procedure whereby a student  
18 ~~shall, for such compelling reasons and circumstances as may be specified by the state~~  
19 ~~board,~~ be permitted to attend and to be included as an enrolled student in the public schools  
20 of a local unit of administration other than the local unit of administration wherein the  
21 student resides for the purpose of allotting state funds under this article, notwithstanding  
22 absence of an agreement between the two local units and a refusal by the board of  
23 education of the local unit wherein the student resides to approve voluntarily such transfer  
24 of the student to the public schools of the other local unit; provided, however, that the  
25 board of education of the local unit is willing to receive and to permit such student to enroll  
26 in and to attend the public schools of such local unit. The state board shall adopt such  
27 rules, regulations, and policies as may be necessary for implementation of this Code  
28 section. Grant or refusal of permission for students to attend such schools, for the purpose  
29 of permitting state funds to follow such students, ~~shall be entirely discretionary with the~~  
30 ~~state board and shall, in the absence of a clear abuse of discretion by the state board, be~~  
31 ~~final and conclusive~~ subject only to approval of the enrolling student and the local unit of  
32 administration in which the student seeks to enroll. Local units of administration may  
33 contract with each other for the care, education, and transportation of students and for such  
34 other activities as they may be authorized by law to perform."

35

**SECTION 3.**

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