

Senate Bill 219

By: Senators Jordan of the 6th, Rahman of the 5th, Black of the 8th, Robertson of the 29th and Williams of the 39th

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 1 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions relative to education, so as to require high school students and
3 students seeking a general educational development (GED) diploma to correctly answer 60
4 percent of the questions on the United States Citizenship Civics Test for purposes of being
5 eligible to receive a high school diploma or a general educational development (GED)
6 diploma; to provide for multiple attempts; to provide for certification of scores; to provide
7 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article 1 of Chapter 1 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
11 general provisions relative to education, is amended by adding a new Code section to read
12 as follows:

13 "20-1-11.

14 (a) On and after July 1, 2019, high school students and students seeking a general
15 educational development (GED) diploma shall be required to achieve a minimum score of
16 60 percent on the United States Citizenship Civics Test produced by the United States
17 Citizenship and Immigration Services as a condition of earning a high school diploma or
18 a general educational development (GED) diploma.

19 (b) Students may take the United States Citizenship Civics Test as many times as
20 necessary to earn the minimum required score.

21 (c) All high schools and general educational development (GED) diploma programs shall
22 establish a process to certify that a student has achieved the minimum required score on the
23 United States Citizenship Civics Test in order to ensure compliance with the requirements
24 of this Code section.

25 (d) For high school students, such test shall be included in the course of study in the
26 history of the United States required pursuant to Code Section 20-2-142 as a condition for
27 receiving a high school diploma."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.