

Bills Passed 2017

Bill#	Description
HB 86	Those required to report suspected child abuse must also report signs of sex trafficking
HB 139	Department of Education must make available on its website specified school system information and school site budget and expenditures. Bill includes deadlines. School districts, schools, and state charters with a website must post in a prominent location a link to specified information on the Department of Education's website.
HB 198	Repeals sunset date for SHAPE Act (was HB 246) School districts must provide information on influenza vaccines and other information IF they provide information to parents and guardians of students in grades 6-12 on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues; Department to develop information
HB 224	Student of military family living in base housing may attend any school in local system determined to have capacity
HB 237	Creates the Public Education Innovation Fund Foundation; donors receive income tax credits; \$5 million cap; sunsets in three years
HB 238	Property owners who have land in a covenant for conservation use or forestland protection can take out a portion to be used for solar power generation of electricity without incurring penalties but must pay fair market ad valorem on the property
HB 243	Prohibits local governments from requiring contractors to make certain payments to employees if schedule changes
HB 245	Professional Standards Commission to establish process by which military spouses may qualify for temporary certificates
HB 290	Revises definitions for ad valorem tax exemptions related to qualified farm products and harvested agricultural products.
HB 338	System of supports and assistance for lowest performing 5% of schools beginning with amending charter system or SWSS contract or incurring State Board sanctions under existing law; Chief Turnaround Officer directs process
HB 340	Revises tag ad valorem tax leasing provisions so it is taxed on the cost of the lease not the value of the vehicle
HB 359	Supporting and Strengthening Families Act -- creates a short-term power of attorney to delegate caregiving authority for a child under 18. Note that HB 331, the Caregiver Educational Consent Act, passed as part of HB 186. The two bills amend different code sections.
HB 425	Districts are strongly encouraged to provide administration of standardized assessments in paper-and-pencil format upon parental request; State Superintendent to develop guidelines suggesting a range of policies that districts are encouraged to adopt dealing with students who have opted out of assessment
HB 430	Governor's Education Reform Commission; charter schools' provisions; implement recommendations
HB 437	Agricultural education Advisory Commission; recreate
HR 57	House Elementary & Secondary School Nutrition Programs Study Committee
HR 284	House State & Local Construction Management Study Committee
HR 643	House Study Committee on Civics Education in Georgia
HR 686	House Study Committee on Equitable Local Funding
SB 16	Adds conditions for legal use of Low THC Oil (medical marijuana); now includes severe autism for those under 18
SB 104	Videotaping or photographing up the skirt of someone without their permission is a felony; posting notice for sex trafficking hotline does not appear to apply to schools based on definition of government entity in the bill
SB 149	Georgia Peace Officer Standards & Training Council must provide a 40 hour training course for school resource officers (SROs); it is a best practice for SROs to complete it
SB 186	Students who earned high school diploma through dual coursework are eligible for HOPE grant; Caregiver Education Consent Act (was HB 331) defines fictive kin and kinship caregiver and provides for such a person to give legal consent for a child to receive educational and medical services

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SB 201	Employers with more than 25 employees must allow them to use earned sick leave for the care of immediate family members; sunsets in three years
SB 211	State Department of Education shall select assessments in reading and math for grades 1 and 2 after consulting with local districts using reliable research based formative assessments (\$2.5 million in budget for this); State is to pursue as much flexibility in federal law as possible; State Board is to conduct a comparability study of nationally recognized assessments such as ACT, SAT, and ACCUPLACER to determine how well aligned they are to our standards and initiate it no later than July 1, 2017 (\$250,000 in budget for this); Local districts must consider dual enrollment students for valedictorian and salutatorian status unless they transferred after their sophomore year and have taken no courses on campus (was HB 114)
SB 258	Anyone who has had public money but has not returned it or accounted for the use of it is not eligible to run for school board (or a municipal office; already applies to counties)
SR 95	Constitutional amendment will be on the November 2018 ballot; amends provisions for a city and county calling for an e-SPLOST referendum and distributing the revenue from it
SR 222	Senate Study Committee on Special Tax Exemptions
SR 392	Senate Study Committee on Rural Georgia
SR 454	Senate Cyber Security Education Study Committee