

House Bill 229 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Coleman of the 97<sup>th</sup>, Dickson of the 6<sup>th</sup>, Maxwell of the 17<sup>th</sup>, Kaiser of the 59<sup>th</sup>, Ashe of the 56<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
 2 Annotated, relating to the health of students in elementary and secondary education, so as to  
 3 require local school systems to conduct an annual fitness assessment and to comply with state  
 4 physical education instruction requirements; to provide for reporting of results; to provide  
 5 for an annual report to the Governor; to provide for a recognition program; to provide for  
 6 automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
 7 purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
 11 relating to the health of students in elementary and secondary education, is amended by  
 12 adding a new Code section to read as follows:

13 "20-2-776.

14 (a)(1) Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, each local school system shall conduct  
 15 an annual fitness assessment program, as approved and funded by the State Board of  
 16 Education, one time each school year for students in grades one through 12, to be  
 17 conducted only during a physical education course that is taught by a certificated physical  
 18 education teacher in which a student is enrolled. Such assessments shall include methods  
 19 deemed by the State Board of Education as appropriate to ascertain levels of student  
 20 physical fitness. Each local school system shall report the individual results of the fitness  
 21 assessment to the parent or guardian of each student assessed and the aggregate results  
 22 of the fitness assessments by school to the State Board of Education annually in a format  
 23 approved and funded by the State Board of Education. The minimum required contents  
 24 of the report shall be determined by the State Board of Education.

25 (2) Each local school system shall be required to provide at least the minimum  
26 instruction in physical education prescribed by the State Board of Education in rules and  
27 regulations established pursuant to subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-142.

28 (b) The State Board of Education shall be responsible for the coordination of health and  
29 physical education and fitness activities and requirements, including, but not limited to,  
30 modification or promulgation of rules and regulations related thereto. The State Board of  
31 Education shall adopt and disseminate to local school systems standards which adequately  
32 express the most current and widely accepted best practices and benchmarks in the areas  
33 of student health and physical education. The State Board of Education's efforts may be  
34 supported with state, federal, or private funding or a combination thereof.

35 (c) The State Board of Education shall submit an annual report to the Governor, beginning  
36 October 1, 2012, and annually thereafter. Such report shall include the compliance status  
37 of each local school system and each school with applicable State Board of Education rules  
38 and regulations. The Governor may, in coordination with the State Board of Education,  
39 establish one or more recognition programs to acknowledge local school systems and  
40 schools which have most improved in their physical fitness assessments. The Governor  
41 may collaborate with private corporations in the development and implementation of  
42 recognition programs pursuant to this subsection, including providing monetary or other  
43 incentives to local school systems or schools for attaining certain levels of health status.  
44 All local school systems or schools receiving acknowledgment through a recognition  
45 program established by the Governor pursuant to this subsection shall also be recognized  
46 on the State Board of Education's website.

47 (d) This Code section, except for subsection (b), shall be repealed on June 30, 2019."

48 **SECTION 2.**

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