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***Legislation Impacting Charter Schools (2019)***

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| **Bill No.** | **Summary** | **Sponsor** | **Charter School Impact?** | **Notes** |
| [HB12](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/12) | Requires all public schools to post a sign containing a telephone number where child abuse reports can be provided. | Williams, R. | Yes | Not waivable; must post signs. |
| [HB30](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/30) | AFY2019 Budget which includes $30K per school for school safety improvements.   | Ralston | Yes | The AFY2019 Budget includes money for one-time grant awards to all schools--including charters--for the purpose of improving/increasing school safety ($30,000/school).   |
| HB31 | FY2020 Budget which includes a total of $3.5M for charter school facility grants ($2M in new funds). |  |  | The FY2020 Budget includes $3.5M for charter school facility grants; (these grants were created via HB430 in 2017 but not appropriated until now).   The FY2020 budget also contains $522M for teacher pay raises ($3000/teacher). |
| [HB59](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/59) | Amends the residency requirement associated with public school enrollment; clarifies that schools with statewide attendance zones can convene board meetings telephonically.   | Belton | Yes | Allows children of active duty military personnel to register in a local school district prior to establishing residency (based on official military orders); allows students to enter a charter school lottery prior to establishing residency in the charter school's attendance zone (but requires proof of residency upon enrollment); allows state charter schools with statewide attendance zones to establish a quorum for board meetings telephonically/virtually.   |
| [HB68](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/68) | Prohibit certain entities (those that provide accreditation of elementary or secondary schools) from being student scholarship organizations | Carson | No | N/A |
| [HB83](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/83) | Public schools must provide recess for students in kindergarten and grades one through five. | Douglas | VETOED | Had this not been vetoed, GaDOE would not have allowed charter schools to waive this requirement. |
| [HB130](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/130) | Authorize the Georgia Foundation for Public Education to establish a nonprofit corporation to qualify as a public foundation. | Nix | No | N/A |
| [HB459](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/459) | Requires local boards of education to provide to the Dept. of Public safety the full name and driver’s license number of all employed school bus drivers. | Ehrhart | Yes, for STATE CHARTER schools providing transportation and employing bus drivers. | Requires each local board of education to provide to the Dept. of Public Safety the full name and drivers license number of each person who is to be employed as a school bus driver.  Would require that this information be provided to the Dept. of Public Safety twice a year and would require the Dept. of Public Safety to maintain a data base of these names in order to verify if a potential candidates license has expired or if driving privileges have been suspended or revoked. |
| [HB527](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/HB/527) | Changes QBE program weights and student-teacher ratios | Dickey | No (this bill impacts all public schools in the same manner and does not substantively change any relevant aspect of QBE) | Trues up the ratios and weights in the QBE formula |
| [SB15](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/SB/15) | Requires periodic threat assessments to be done on buildings, facilities, and campuses by a person or agency approved by GEMA and Homeland Security | Albers | VETOED | Had this not been vetoed, the provisions of this bill would not have been waivable.  The bill adds requirements for school safety plans to address security issues in school safety zones, at school functions, and while transporting students.  Requires safety plans to be vetted by local law enforcement and filed with GaDOE; requires schools to conduct "mass casualty" safety drills with local law enforcement and adds a new title for principals: safety coordinator.   |
| [SB48](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/SB/48) | Requires the identification of students with dyslexia; requires the Department of Education to make a dyslexia informational handbook available to local school systems | Martin, PK | Yes\* (probably not waivable) | GaDOE will create a handbook for schools to use re: evidence-based practices for instructing students with dyslexia. The dyslexia screening is not required until 2024-2025; in the meantime, the SBOE will create guidelines for such screenings, and the PSC will create/refine criteria related to a dyslexia endorsement for classroom teachers. (The state will appropriate funds associated with the costs of this screening.)  |
| [SB60](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/SB/60) | Requires GaDOE to post relevant guidelines; requires schools to hold informational meetings and provide informational documents to students and parents. | Martin, PK | Yes | Gadoe will create and post relevant information and guidelines to inform students and school personnel on the warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest.  A school shall hold an informational meeting TWICE per year regarding the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest. Informational sheets on warning signs must be provided to students and parents at said meetings.  Requires the removal of a student who passes out or faints during or immediately after participating in an interscholastic athletic activity by the school's athletic director, coach, or trainer. In the absence of an athletic trainer, coaches observing CA symptoms MUST notify parents so they can seek treatment.  (Students who are removed from participation shall not be permitted to return to activity until such student is evaluated and cleared by a health care provider). |
| [SB83](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/SB/83) | Revises provisions relating to elective courses in History and Literature of the Old and New Testament Eras | Mullis | No (nothing is mandated) | Allows for schools IF DESIRED to offer history/literature/art of Old and New Testaments as electives and charges GADOE with developing content standards for such courses; codifies the REACH scholarship (state charter schools can apply to be REACH scholarship districts). |
| [SB108](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/SB/108) | Requires the creation and implementation of computer science courses in middle and high school. | Martin, PK | Yes | Beginning in 2022-2023, all *school districts* (and each state charter school serving high school students) shall provide that at least one high school in its school system offers a course in computer science; beginning in 2022-2023, all school districts (and each state charter school serving middle school students) shall offer instruction in exploratory computer science.  Beginning in 2024-2025, all *high schools*--including local charter schools--must offer a course in computer science.  Schools may utilize Georgia Virtual School to offer said CS course. \*Some funding was appropriated to provide grants to districts, local charter schools, state charter schools, and/or high-quality service training providers for PD in CS.   |
| [SB212](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20192020/SB/212) | Authorizes the virtual administration of on-the-road driving skills testing | Martin, PK | Yes, but only if a school offers Driver's Education courses at the high school level | Allows driver training course to administer the driver’s license test as long as the program is licensed by the State and six in-car hours of instruction are completed. |