

House Bill 1303 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Dickey of the 140<sup>th</sup>, England of the 116<sup>th</sup>, Pirkle of the 155<sup>th</sup>, Erwin of the 28<sup>th</sup>, Bentley of the 139<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to educational programs, so as to transition a pilot program for  
3 elementary agricultural education to an optional ongoing program; to require participating  
4 schools to employ an agricultural education teacher; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
9 relating to educational programs, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-154.3, relating  
10 to a pilot program for agricultural education in elementary schools and evaluation of  
11 program, as follows:

12 "20-2-154.3.

13 ~~(a) The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program, shall be~~  
14 ~~authorized to establish a pilot program, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, to provide~~  
15 ~~for agricultural education in elementary schools in this state. The purpose of the pilot~~

16 ~~program shall be to determine whether and how to implement an elementary agricultural~~  
17 ~~education program state wide.~~

18 ~~(b)(a)~~ The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program employees  
19 described in Code Section 20-2-154.2, is authorized to ~~select a minimum of six public~~  
20 administer an agricultural education program that local school systems may offer in  
21 elementary schools for participation in the pilot program, with one elementary school in  
22 each of the ~~six existing regions established by the agricultural education program of the~~  
23 ~~Department of Education.~~ The If a local board of education elects to offer an elementary  
24 agricultural education program in an elementary school, the local board of education for  
25 each elementary school selected to be in the pilot program shall agree to implement and  
26 fully fund an elementary agricultural education such program in such school in accordance  
27 with this Code section and to continue to provide such elementary the practices or  
28 standards established by the agricultural education program for a period no shorter than  
29 three years of the Department of Education. The local school system ~~may~~ shall employ an  
30 agricultural education teacher to provide such program for the elementary school.

31 ~~(c)(b)~~ The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program employees  
32 described in Code Section 20-2-154.2, ~~and local school systems shall collaborate to~~  
33 establish the curriculum for each elementary agricultural education program. Such  
34 curriculum shall be grade-appropriate and include instruction in an organized classroom;  
35 collaborative learning experiences through investigation and inquiry, including laboratory  
36 and site-based learning activities; and personal and leadership development opportunities.

37 ~~(d)(c)~~ The Department of Education, through its agricultural education program, shall  
38 provide for a program evaluation regarding the success and impact of the pilot program  
39 ~~upon completion of in place in the third year of the pilot program 2019-2020, 2020-2021,~~  
40 and 2021-2022 school years and shall report in writing the results of such evaluation to the  
41 House Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs and the Senate Agriculture and

42 Consumer Affairs Committee and to the House Committee on Education and the Senate  
43 Education and Youth Committee, by December 31, 2022."

44 **SECTION 2.**

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