

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 under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as  
3 to authorize local boards of education and other public school governing bodies to offer  
4 driver education as an elective course; to provide for funding from local funds, student fees  
5 subject to waiver, and state funding subject to appropriations; to provide for rules and  
6 regulations for the allocation of state funds; to provide for a short title; to provide for related  
7 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Safe Teens Act."

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
13 relating to educational programs under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by

14 revising Code Section 20-2-151.2, relating to driver education course accepted for Carnegie  
15 unit elective credits, as follows:

16 "20-2-151.2.

17 (a) For the purpose of earning Carnegie unit curriculum credits at the high school level,  
18 satisfactory completion, ~~on or after January 1, 1999,~~ of a driver education training course  
19 approved by the Department of Driver Services pursuant to Code Section 40-5-10 in a  
20 driver training school and under the instruction of a driver training instructor licensed by  
21 the ~~department~~ Department of Driver Services under Chapter 13 of Title 43, 'The Driver  
22 Training School and Commercial Driver Training School License Act,' may be accepted  
23 by the State Board of Education for one-half unit of elective credit for any student.

24 (b) Each local board of education or other public school governing body shall be  
25 authorized to offer an elective driver education training course approved by the Department  
26 of Driver Services pursuant to Code Section 40-5-10 for one-half unit of elective credit for  
27 any high school student. When such a driver education training course is offered, the cost  
28 of such course shall be paid from one or more of the following:

29 (1) Funds of the local board of education or other public school governing body, in an  
30 amount to be determined by such board of education or governing body;

31 (2) Student fees, in an amount to be determined by the local board of education or other  
32 public school governing body; provided, however, that such student fees shall be subject  
33 to waiver for a student who demonstrates that payment of such a fee would result in  
34 economic hardship; and provided, further, that the failure to pay such students fees shall  
35 not disqualify a student from receiving elective credit for successfully completing the  
36 course; or

37 (3) State funds, in an amount allocated according to rules and regulations promulgated  
38 by the State Board of Education, subject to appropriation by the General Assembly."

39 **SECTION 3.**

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