

House Bill 984 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Coan of the 101<sup>st</sup>, Lunsford of the 110<sup>th</sup>, Ehrhart of the 36<sup>th</sup>, Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup>, Coleman of the 97<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Subpart 2 of Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of  
2 Georgia Annotated, relating to compulsory attendance for students in elementary and  
3 secondary education, so as to provide that a student whose parent or legal guardian is in  
4 military service is granted excused absences from school to visit with his or her parent or  
5 legal guardian prior to deployment or while on leave; to provide for construction; to provide  
6 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Subpart 2 of Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
10 Annotated, relating to compulsory attendance for students in elementary and secondary  
11 education, is amended by inserting after Code Section 20-2-692, relating to General  
12 Assembly pages granted excused absences, a new Code Section 20-2-692.1 to read as  
13 follows:

14 "20-2-692.1.

15 A student whose parent or legal guardian is in military service in the armed forces of the  
16 United States or the National Guard, and such parent or legal guardian has been called to  
17 duty for or is on leave from overseas deployment to a combat zone or combat support  
18 posting, shall be granted excused absences, up to a maximum of five school days per  
19 school year, for the day or days missed from school to visit with his or her parent or legal  
20 guardian prior to such parent's or legal guardian's deployment or during such parent's or  
21 legal guardian's leave. Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to require a local  
22 school system to revise any policies relating to maximum number of excused and  
23 unexcused absences for any purposes."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.