agencies must meet by the State Board of Education to be recognized as an accrediting agency. The State Board of Education will have oversight authority of accrediting agencies, and may determine if an agency is not in compliance with state standards. When disputes arise between an accrediting agency and a public secondary school, the school has the right to appeal to the state board.

Status: PASSED SENATE. PASSED HOUSE. Awaits consideration by the governor.

SB 211  (Hickman-4th)  Bill Link
Creates the Georgia Council on Literacy to conduct a comprehensive review of birth to postsecondary literacy programs for the purpose of improving literacy outcomes of Georgia students. The council is composed of 30 members, will meet at least four times per year, and will dissolve December 31, 2026.

Status: PASSED SENATE. PASSED HOUSE. Awaits consideration by the governor.

SR 175  (Brass-28th)  Bill Link
Creates the Joint Study Committee on Dual Enrollment for Highly Skilled Talent at Younger Ages. This committee will examine existing dual enrollment opportunities to develop highly skilled talent at younger ages and develop solutions to produce more dual enrollment talent. Section 2 creates the Joint Study Committee on Service Delivery Strategy (SDS). The committee will consist of 10 members as follows: the president of the Senate will appoint three members of the Senate, including the chair of the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee, a county commissioner from a county currently levying a local option sales tax (LOST), and a mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST; the speaker of the House will appoint three members of the House of Representatives, including the chair of the House Committee on Governmental Affairs, a county commissioner from a county currently levying a LOST, and a mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST. A co-chairperson each from the House of Representatives and Senate will be chosen by the president of the Senate and speaker of the House, respectively. The committee will stand abolished on December 1, 2023.

Status: PASSED SENATE. PASSED HOUSE. Awaits consideration by the governor.

BILLs THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 51  (Pirkle-169th)  Bill Link
Authorizes local boards of education to utilize alternative means of transportation other than school buses to transport students to school and school-related activities where appropriate. The bill was amended to include language that states "No high school which receives funding under this article shall participate in, sponsor, or provide coaching or support staff for interscholastic athletic or literary events or other school activities which are conducted under the authority of, conducted under the rules of, scheduled by any athletic association that is a member of a national association, federation, or alliance of high school athletic, literary, or school activities associations that does not include or recognize all other voluntary nonprofit athletic, literary, or school activities associations of Georgia high schools in compliance with the requirements of Code Section 20-2-319.2 and Code Section 20-2-324.1 as a member or affiliate member with all the rights and privileges associated with membership in said association, federation, or alliance."

Status: PASSED HOUSE. Tabled in the Senate and therefore DID NOT PASS.

HB 81  (Corbett-174th)  Bill Link
Revises the eligibility criteria are that a local school system must be currently, or in the most recent three years, ranked in the bottom 25% of school systems in sales revenue per full-time equivalent (FTE) student count and value of property per FTE student count. For local school systems in which the amount of special purpose local option sales tax revenues is ranked in the bottom 25% of eligible local school systems receiving such sales tax revenues, that system may submit a request to the Department of Education for consideration. The system must commit five years of such revenues to the project. Educational facilities must be more than 35 years old to be consolidated. Once a local school system has received a capital outlay grant and its need is met as determined by the department, it is not eligible to receive another grant for a period of 10 years.

Status: PASSED HOUSE. Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Education and Youth Committee. The bill remained in Senate Rules Committee and therefore DID NOT PASS.