House Bill 127

By: Representatives Cox of the 28th, Leverett of the 123rd, Rice of the 139th, Barrett of the 24th, and Erwin of the 32nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Part 4 of Article 17 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sick, personal, and maternity leave for teachers and other school personnel, so as to increase from three to five the number of accumulated sick leave days teachers and other school personnel may take each school year for personal or professional reasons; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Part 4 of Article 17 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sick, personal, and maternity leave for teachers and other school personnel, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-851, relating to use of accumulated sick leave for personal or professional reasons, as follows:

"20-2-851.

During any school year, personnel may utilize up to a maximum of ~~three~~ five days of any accumulated sick leave for the purpose of absenting themselves from their duties for personal or professional reasons if prior approval of their absence is given by the local school superintendent or his or her authorized representative; provided, however, that the

absence is not in conflict with a local board of education policy concerning school days on which the presence of the personnel requesting absence is essential for effective school operation. No grant of approval for an absence permitted under this Code section shall be conditioned upon disclosure of the specific purpose for which such absence is sought, nor shall any such grant of approval be withheld or denied because of the failure or refusal of personnel to disclose the specific purpose for which such an absence is sought; provided, however, that personnel may be requested to state whether the absence is sought under the category of 'personal' or 'professional' absence.″

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.