

Senate Bill 365

By: Senators Marable of the 52nd, Dean of the 31st, Hill of the 4th and Walker of the 22nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to organization and administration of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency,
3 so as to provide for site surveys, safety audits, and vulnerability assessments for certain
4 public buildings; to provide for certain state government safety plans; to provide for a
5 program of safety training; to provide for government emergency operations plans; to
6 provide for interagency cooperation; to exempt certain records from public inspection and
7 disclosure; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
11 organization and administration of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, is amended
12 by inserting a new Code section to read as follows:

13 "38-3-22.1.

14 (a) Subject to the availability of funds for such purposes, the Georgia Emergency
15 Management Agency shall prepare:

16 (1) Site surveys and safety audits assessing the vulnerabilities of each building owned
17 or operated by state government or any branch, department, agency, board, bureau,
18 commission, or authority thereof to acts or threats of terrorism or other violence, natural
19 disasters, and hazardous materials or radiological accidents;

20 (2) Comprehensive and coordinated state government safety plans designed to protect
21 occupants of and visitors to each such building against acts or threats of terrorism or other
22 violence, natural disasters, and hazardous materials or radiological accidents, taking into
23 consideration the vulnerabilities identified by the surveys, audits, and assessments made
24 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection. Such plans shall be designed to at least
25 achieve and maintain such minimum standards of preparedness and protection as shall
26 be prescribed by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency for such purposes. Such

1 plans shall be reviewed annually after preparation and modified or amended if and when
2 necessary and appropriate;

3 (3) A program of related safety and security awareness training consisting of at least four
4 hours annually and appropriate for all employees of state government and any branch,
5 department, agency, board, bureau, commission, or authority thereof, which may include
6 without limitation training regarding antiterrorism, operations security, communications
7 security, threat conditions levels, physical security, individual security, and the roles of
8 law enforcement officers and agencies; and

9 (4) A state government emergency operations planning guide.

10 (b) The officers and employees of each branch, department, agency, board, bureau,
11 commission, or authority of state government shall cooperate with the agency as necessary
12 and appropriate for purposes of subsection (a) of this Code section.

13 (c) The following records shall not be subject to public inspection or disclosure under
14 Article 4 of Chapter 18 of Title 50:

15 (1) Site surveys, safety audits, and vulnerability assessments performed pursuant to
16 paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of this Code section; and

17 (2) Any other record produced pursuant to this Code section the disclosure of which
18 would, in the determination of the director of the Georgia Emergency Management
19 Agency, endanger the life or physical safety of any person or persons or the physical
20 safety of any public property."

21 **SECTION 2.**

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