

Senate Bill 496

By: Senators Seabaugh of the 28th and Lee of the 29th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend an Act creating the Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and
2 Children, approved March 27, 1998 (Ga. L. 1998, p. 3945), so as to include senior citizens
3 within the purview of the authority's undertaking; to provide for an additional member; to
4 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 An Act creating the Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children,
8 approved March 27, 1998 (Ga. L. 1998, p. 3945), is amended by striking Sections 1 through
9 5 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

10 "SECTION 1.

11 There is created the Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children,
12 referred to in this Act as the 'authority.' The authority shall undertake annual and ongoing
13 studies of the needs, issues, and state of well-being of children, families, youth, and senior
14 citizens in this county. The authority shall gather, publicize, and disseminate data on issues
15 pertinent to families and children; identify outstanding issues and areas of concern and
16 assist the community in establishing and implementing strategic and annual plans for
17 addressing these issues collaboratively; design and propose comprehensive programmatic
18 strategies for addressing conditions of families, children, and senior citizens; and secure
19 and expand existing resources to improve results for families, children, and senior citizens.
20 The authority shall adopt such rules or procedures as it finds necessary or desirable for the
21 governance of its operations. The members of the authority shall serve without
22 compensation.

SECTION 2.

1
2 (a) The Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children shall be
3 composed of 21 members as follows:

4 (1) Two members to be appointed by the Spalding County legislative delegation, one of
5 which members shall be a member of such delegation to serve a term of two years and
6 one of which members shall be from the media to serve a term of one year;

7 (2) Three members to be appointed by the board of commissioners of Spalding County,
8 which members shall be one commissioner and one law enforcement official, each to
9 serve terms of one year; and one consumer of family services at large to serve a term of
10 two years;

11 (3) Three members to be appointed by the board of commissioners of the City of Griffin,
12 which members shall be one commissioner and one law enforcement official, each to
13 serve terms of one year; and one consumer of family services at large to serve a term of
14 two years;

15 (4) One member to be appointed by the Griffin/Spalding Chamber of Commerce
16 representing business or civic interests who shall serve a one-year term;

17 (5) One member to be appointed by the Spalding County Board of Health, which
18 member shall be from the medical field and serve a term of two years;

19 (6) Two members to be appointed by the board of the Spalding County Department of
20 Family and Children Services, one of which members shall be a member of a religious
21 organization to serve a term of two years and one of which members shall be from the
22 social services field to serve a term of two years;

23 (7) The superintendent of the Griffin/Spalding County School System, the director of the
24 Spalding County Department of Family and Children Services, the director of the
25 Spalding County Health Department, the regional director of the Department of Juvenile
26 Justice, the director of the Council on Aging, the director of the McIntosh Trail
27 MH/MR/SA, the senior juvenile court judge, and the director of the Griffin Housing
28 Authority; and

29 (8) An attorney to be appointed by the Spalding County Bar Association to serve for an
30 initial term of two years.

31 (b) Following the expiration of the initial terms of office specified in subsection (a) of this
32 section, all appointments shall be for terms of two years, except that any elected official
33 appointed to the authority shall serve for such term on the council only while serving as
34 such official. Otherwise, members shall serve for the terms of office specified in
35 subsection (a) of this section and until their respective successors are appointed and

1 qualified. Ex officio members of the authority shall serve on the authority only while
2 holding the office by virtue of which they have membership on the authority.

3 (c) All appointments to the authority shall be made within 30 days after the effective date
4 of this Act. All persons appointed to serve on the Spalding County Collaborative Authority
5 for Families and Children are required to be residents of Spalding County with the
6 exception of persons filling the professional positions provided for in subsection (a) of this
7 section who may or may not be official county residents.

8 SECTION 3.

9 The authority is authorized to receive, accept, and expend funds from public or private
10 sources for implementing strategies to benefit the children, their families, and senior
11 citizens of Spalding County. The authority is authorized to expend such funds to employ
12 a coordinator, who shall not be a member of the authority, but for the execution of the
13 authority's duties. The salary and administrative sponsorship for such coordinator shall be
14 set by the authority.

15 SECTION 4.

16 The authority shall make an annual report on July 1 of each year of its findings and
17 recommendations to the Spalding County legislative delegation, the juvenile court judge
18 of Spalding County, the boards of commissioners of the City of Griffin and the County of
19 Spalding, the Griffin/Spalding Chamber of Commerce, the directors of the Spalding
20 County Department of Family and Children Services, the Spalding County Board of
21 Health, and to any individual or group providing funds to the authority.

22 SECTION 5.

23 Each member of the commission shall be given the following oath to be administered by
24 the senior judge of the Superior Court of Spalding County:

25 'Recognizing the fact that there are many social, economic, and educational issues which
26 prevent our children, their families, and senior citizens from achieving their potential and
27 desiring to play a part in improving the outcomes for families and children, I,
28 _____, do solemnly swear that as a member of the Spalding County Collaborative
29 Authority for Families and Children I will fulfill the duties and responsibilities of my
30 appointment to the best of my ability.'

31 SECTION 2.

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