

House Bill 31

By: Representative Franklin of the 17th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general provisions relative to crimes, so as to define certain terms; to provide that any person
3 who creates a gun-free zone shall be liable for injuries to any person injured within such zone
4 as a result of certain crimes; to provide for treble damages; to repeal conflicting laws; and
5 for other purposes.

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7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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SECTION 1.

9 Chapter 1 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
10 provisions relative to crimes, is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:

11 "16-1-12.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

13 (1) 'Criminal conduct' means any offense specified under this title in Chapter 5, relating
14 to offenses against the person; Chapter 6, relating to sexual offenses; Chapter 7, relating
15 to damage to and intrusion upon property; Chapter 8, relating to offenses involving theft;
16 and Chapter 11, relating to offenses against public order and safety.

17 (2) 'Gun-free zone' means any building, place, area, or curtilage that is open to the
18 public, or in or upon any public conveyance, where a person's right or ability to possess
19 firearms is infringed, restricted, or diminished in any way by statute, policy, rule,
20 regulation, ordinance, utterance, or posted signs.

21 (b) Any person, organization, or entity or any agency of government that creates a gun-free
22 zone shall be liable for damages resulting from criminal conduct that occurs against an
23 individual in such gun-free zone if a reasonable person would believe that possession of
24 a firearm could have helped the individual defend against such conduct. In the event the
25 conduct is a result of a terrorist attack as federally defined or adversely affects a disabled
26 person, a senior citizen, or a child under 16 years of age, treble damages shall apply."

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SECTION 2.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.