

Senate Bill 201

By: Senators Collins of the 6th, Brown of the 26th, Price of the 56th, Johnson of the 1st and Thompson of the 33rd

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to child abuse and deprivation records, so as to permit the Department of Human
3 Resources to share access to child abuse records and release information from such records
4 to the Office of School Readiness; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
5 and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to child
9 abuse and deprivation records, is amended by striking paragraphs (9) and (10) of subsection
10 (c) of Code Section 49-5-41, relating to persons and agencies permitted access to records,
11 and inserting in their respective places the following:

12 "(9) Any person who has an ongoing relationship with the child named in the record or
13 report of child abuse any part of which is to be disclosed to such person but only if that
14 person is required to report suspected abuse of that child pursuant to subsection (b) of
15 Code Section 19-7-5, as that subsection existed on January 1, 1990; ~~and~~

16 (10) Any school principal or any school guidance counselor, school social worker, or
17 school psychologist who is certified under Chapter 2 of Title 20 and who is counseling
18 a student as a part of such counseling person's school employment duties, but those
19 records shall remain confidential and information obtained therefrom by that counseling
20 person may not be disclosed to any person, except that student, not authorized under this
21 Code section to obtain those records, and such unauthorized disclosure shall be
22 punishable as a misdemeanor; and

23 (11) The Office of School Readiness or the Department of Education, Division of School
24 Readiness."

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.