

Senate Bill 416

By: Senators Unterman of the 45th, Johnson of the 1st, Stephens of the 51st and Lee of the 29th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 16 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to death investigations, so as to provide a definition; to require that the county
3 coroner must be informed of the deaths of persons who received compensated care services
4 within the 30 day period immediately preceding death; to provide that the coroner shall make
5 reasonable inquiries into such deaths; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
6 laws; and for other purposes.

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

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 2 of Chapter 16 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 death investigations, is amended by adding a new Code Section 45-16-24.1 to read as
11 follows:

12 "45-16-24.1.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'compensated care services' shall mean home
14 health services as defined in Code Section 31-7-150 and residency in a nursing home or
15 personal care home.

16 (b) It shall be the duty of any person having knowledge of the death of any person who
17 received compensated care services within the 30 day period immediately preceding death
18 to notify immediately the coroner of the county in which the death occurs.

19 (c) Upon being notified of such death, the coroner shall make reasonable inquiries into the
20 death of such individual to determine if abuse or inappropriate or inadequate care by those
21 persons providing compensated care services was a cause or contributing factor to the death
22 of the individual."

23 **SECTION 2.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.