

Senate Bill 582

By: Senators Meyer von Bremen of the 12th and Hooks of the 14th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Chapter 18 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 treatment and rehabilitation of spinal cord disabled and head-injured persons, so as to change
3 certain provisions relating to registration and reporting procedures; to change certain
4 provisions relating to duties of the Department of Human Resources; to provide for related
5 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 18 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to treatment and
9 rehabilitation of spinal cord disabled and head-injured persons, is amended by striking Code
10 Section 31-18-3, relating to registration and reporting procedures, and inserting in its place
11 the following:

12 "31-18-3.

13 Except as otherwise provided, every public and private health and social agency and every
14 physician authorized to practice medicine in this state shall report to the Brain and Spinal
15 Injury Trust Fund Commission, which is administratively assigned to the department, the
16 name of any person such agency or physician has identified as being spinal cord disabled
17 or head-injured. The report shall be made within 48 hours after identification of the spinal
18 cord disabled or head-injured person. The report shall contain the name, age, address, type
19 and extent of disability, and such other information concerning the disabled person as the
20 Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission, which is administratively assigned to the
21 department, may require."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) of Code Section 31-18-4,
24 relating to duties of the Department of Human Resources, and inserting in their respective
25 places the following:

1 "(a) The Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission, which is administratively
2 assigned to the department, shall establish procedures whereby a spinal cord disabled or
3 head-injured person for whom a report is made under this chapter shall be referred with
4 informed consent to appropriate public or private departments or agencies for treatment and
5 rehabilitative services.

6 (b) ~~The Division of Rehabilitation Services of the Department of Labor~~ Brain and Spinal
7 Injury Trust Fund Commission shall maintain records of reports, notifications, and referrals
8 made under this chapter. ~~The Division of Rehabilitation Services shall submit quarterly~~
9 ~~reports of its notifications and referrals to the Division of Physical Health~~ Brain and Spinal
10 Injury Trust Fund Commission shall produce an annual report relating to information and
11 data collected pursuant to this chapter and shall make such report available upon request."

12 **SECTION 3.**

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