

House Bill 1233

By: Representatives Cox of the 102nd and Cooper of the 41st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to children and youth services, so as to revise and add a definition relating to
3 children's transitional care centers; to change certain provisions relating to licensing and
4 inspection of child welfare agencies; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 children and youth services, is amended by striking paragraphs (1) and (4) of Code Section
10 49-5-3, relating to definitions, and inserting in their respective places the following:

11 "(1) 'Child-caring institution' means any institution, society, agency, or facility, whether
12 incorporated or not, which either primarily or incidentally provides full-time care for
13 children through 18 years of age outside of their own homes, subject to such exceptions
14 as may be provided in rules and regulations of the board. This term includes children's
15 transitional care centers."

16 "~~(4) Reserved.~~ 'Children's transitional care center' means a transitional center which
17 provides a temporary, family centered, home-like environment for medically fragile
18 children who are in a stable condition but dependent on life sustaining medications,
19 treatments, and equipment and who require assistance with activities of daily living for
20 durations of seven days to six months to facilitate transitions from a hospital to a home
21 or other appropriate setting."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 Said article is further amended by striking subsection (i) of Code Section 49-5-12, relating
24 to licensing and inspection of child welfare agencies, and inserting in its place the following:

1 "(i) Child-caring institutions and child-placing agencies, when licensed in accordance with
2 this Code section, may receive needy or dependent children from their parents, guardians,
3 custodians, or persons serving in loco parentis for special, temporary, or continued care.
4 Parents, guardians, custodians, or persons serving in loco parentis to such children may
5 sign releases or agreements giving to such institutions or agencies custody and control over
6 such children during the period of care. Child-caring institutions which are children's
7 transitional care centers may receive medically fragile children from their parents,
8 guardians, custodians, or persons serving in loco parentis for special, temporary, or
9 continued care to facilitate transitions from a hospital to a home or other appropriate
10 setting."

11 **SECTION 3.**

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