

Senate Bill 341

By: Senators Hawkins of the 49th, Murphy of the 27th, Thomas of the 54th, Smith of the 52nd, Carter of the 13th and others

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the Council on Aging, so as to assign additional duties and powers to the council;
3 to require that the council study certain matters and produce a report; to provide a certain
4 date by which the report must be distributed; to provide for the appointment of advisory
5 committees; to provide for reimbursement of expenses incurred by advisory committee
6 members; to provide for the cooperation of other state departments and agencies; to require
7 an interim progress report; to provide for automatic repeal of said provisions; to provide for
8 related matters; to provide for an effective date contingent on funding; to repeal conflicting
9 laws; and for other purposes.

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

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
13 Council on Aging, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

14 "49-6-21.1.

15 (a) In addition to those duties and powers set forth in Code Section 49-6-21, the Council
16 on Aging shall provide a written report entitled 'Project 2020: Georgia for a Lifetime' to the
17 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
18 and such report shall be provided no later than December 15, 2010. The President of the
19 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall direct the report to the
20 appropriate committees for review. The council shall notify members of the General
21 Assembly and any state department or agency mentioned in or affected by the report of the
22 availability of such report, and such notification shall be given in the manner which the
23 council deems most effective and efficient.

24 (b) As part of the report required by subsection (a) of this Code section, the council shall
25 research, identify, evaluate, and make recommendations on:

- 1 (1) State policies regarding older adults and state agencies' readiness for the expanding
2 aging population;
 - 3 (2) The projected impact that this state's increasing aging population will have on health,
4 protection, safety, housing, transportation, employment, caregiving, education, the
5 economy, access to services, volunteerism, legal and financial preparedness, and social
6 and recreational resources;
 - 7 (3) The implementation of specific policies, procedures, and programs to respond to the
8 needs and impact of the aging population relating to health, protection, safety, housing,
9 transportation, employment, caregiving, education, the economy, access to services,
10 volunteerism, legal and financial preparedness, and social and recreational resources;
 - 11 (4) Ways to increase public and governmental understanding of the current and future
12 needs of the state's aging population, to increase state government readiness, and to
13 increase community preparedness for an aging Georgia;
 - 14 (5) Ways to facilitate the communication and coordination of public and private entities
15 as they plan for the growing aging population;
 - 16 (6) The status and effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs that engage the
17 older population or that provide services to the aging population;
 - 18 (7) The policies, procedures, initiatives, and programs that other states have implemented
19 to address the needs of their aging populations;
 - 20 (8) The policies, procedures, initiatives, and programs that other states have developed
21 and implemented to engage older adults as volunteers and mentors;
 - 22 (9) Methods to provide a forum for public comment on planning issues relating to the
23 aging population; and
 - 24 (10) Ways to encourage public and private entities to analyze, plan, and prepare for the
25 impact of the aging population.
- 26 (c) In preparing the report required by subsection (a) of this Code section, the council may
27 hire experts and shall hear from key leaders of the public and private sectors in the various
28 areas relating to the aging population.
- 29 (d) For the purpose of assisting the council in carrying out the provisions of this Code
30 section, the council may appoint advisory committees. The members of such advisory
31 committees shall serve at the pleasure of the council. Members of the advisory committees
32 shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties but shall be reimbursed
33 for actual travel and other reasonable and necessary expenses incurred while attending
34 called meetings of the advisory committee on which they serve.
- 35 (e) The council is authorized to call upon for cooperation and shall receive the cooperation
36 of any state department or agency in carrying out the provisions of this Code section.

- 1 (f) The council shall apply for any applicable grants and resources, public and private, for
2 which it may qualify for executing its duties and powers under this Code section.
- 3 (g) Not later than December 15, 2009, the council shall provide the Governor, the
4 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives with a written
5 interim progress report on the status of the report required by subsection (a) of this Code
6 section. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
7 direct the interim progress report to the appropriate committees for review. The council
8 shall notify members of the General Assembly and any state department or agency
9 mentioned in or affected by the interim progress report of the availability of such report,
10 and such notification shall be given in the manner which the council deems most effective
11 and efficient.
- 12 (h) This Code section shall stand repealed in its entirety on January 1, 2011."

13 **SECTION 2.**

14 This Act shall become effective July 1, 2008, only if funds are specifically appropriated for
15 purposes of this Act in an appropriations Act making specific reference to this Act and shall
16 become effective when funds so appropriated become available for expenditure.

17 **SECTION 3.**

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