

Senate Bill 505

By: Senators Balfour of the 9th, Thomas of the 54th, Carter of the 13th and Hill of the 32nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Department of Human Resources, so as to establish the position of state diabetes coordinator;
3 to provide for appointment of the coordinator; to provide for the duties of the coordinator;
4 to provide for reports to the Governor and General Assembly on matters relating to diabetes;
5 to provide for administrative support for the coordinator; to provide for related matters; to
6 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 2 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department
10 of Human Resources, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

11 "31-2-10.

12 (a) There is established within the Department of Human Resources the position of state
13 diabetes coordinator. The state diabetes coordinator shall be appointed by the
14 commissioner in consultation with the Governor or his or her designee and shall be under
15 the direct supervision of the commissioner or his or her designee.

16 (b) The state diabetes coordinator shall:

17 (1) Serve as the principal advisor to the commissioner on ways to save lives, improve the
18 quality of life, and save money for taxpayers and patients by reducing the rates of
19 diabetes and its complications;

20 (2) Develop a measurement for the incidence of diabetes;

21 (3) Develop and coordinate implementation of a state-wide strategy to reduce the
22 incidence, progression, and impact of diabetes and its complications in Georgia;

23 (4) Provide leadership and coordination between government agencies and across the
24 public and private sectors to ensure that diabetes related programs and policies of the
25 department are coordinated internally and with those of relevant federal, state, and local

1 agencies with a goal of avoiding duplication of effort, maximizing impact, and
2 marshaling all government resources; and

3 (5) Coordinate public and private resources to develop and lead a public awareness
4 campaign regarding the prevention and control of diabetes and its complications.

5 (c)(1) No later than June 30, 2009, the commissioner, in consultation with the state
6 diabetes coordinator, shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly on a state
7 strategy to reduce the incidence, progression, and impact of diabetes and its
8 complications in Georgia. Thereafter, the commissioner, in consultation with the state
9 diabetes coordinator, shall submit biennial updates to the Governor and the General
10 Assembly on the state strategy.

11 (2) No later than June 30, 2009, the commissioner, in consultation with the department's
12 Division of Public Health, shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly on
13 ways in which food programs and nutritional support can be better targeted at concerns
14 specific to those at risk for diabetes or those already diagnosed with diabetes whose
15 complications could be reduced by more effective diet.

16 (d) The commissioner shall provide the state diabetes coordinator with appropriate staff,
17 administrative support, and such other resources as may be necessary for the coordinator
18 to carry out the duties required by this Code section."

19 **SECTION 2.**

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