

House Bill 1277

By: Representative Collins of the 95<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 general provisions relative to labor and industrial relations, so as to provide that it shall be  
3 unlawful for an employer to fail or refuse to hire, bar, discharge from employment, or  
4 otherwise discriminate against an individual because of the individual's credit history or  
5 credit report; to provide for exceptions; to provide a penalty; to repeal conflicting laws; and  
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 1 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
10 provisions relative to labor and industrial relations, is amended by adding a new Code section  
11 to read as follows:

12 "34-1-8.

13 (a) It shall be unlawful for an employer to fail or refuse to hire, bar, discharge from  
14 employment, or otherwise discriminate against an individual because of the individual's  
15 credit history or credit report unless the information in the credit history or credit report  
16 directly relates to a bona fide occupation qualification reasonably necessary to the normal  
17 operation of that business or enterprise.

18 (b) Any employer or agent of such employer who violates subsection (a) of this Code  
19 section shall be liable to the injured employee for all actual damages thereby suffered by  
20 the employee and for reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the employee in asserting a  
21 successful claim under this Code section."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.