

House Bill 925 (AM)

By: Representatives Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup>, McKillip of the 115<sup>th</sup>, and Walker of the 107<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-690.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 mandatory education for children between ages six and 16, so as to provide that notice by  
3 local school systems to parents relating to unexcused absences may be made by United States  
4 mail; to revise provisions relating to content of notice; to provide for related matters; to  
5 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 20-2-690.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to mandatory  
9 education for children between ages six and 16, is amended by revising subsection (c) as  
10 follows:

11 "(c) Any parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge  
12 of a child or children and who shall violate this Code section shall be guilty of a  
13 misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine not less than \$25.00  
14 and not greater than \$100.00, imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, community service, or  
15 any combination of such penalties, at the discretion of the court having jurisdiction. Each  
16 day's absence from school in violation of this part after the child's school system notifies  
17 the parent, guardian, or other person who has control or charge of a child of five unexcused  
18 days of absence for a child shall constitute a separate offense. After two reasonable  
19 attempts to notify the parent, guardian, or other person who has control or charge of a child  
20 of five unexcused days of absence without response, the school system shall send a notice  
21 to such parent, guardian, or other person by certified mail, return receipt requested, or first  
22 class mail. Public schools shall provide to the parent, guardian, or other person having  
23 control or charge of each child enrolled in public school a written ~~summary of possible~~  
24 ~~consequences and penalties for failing to comply with compulsory attendance under this~~  
25 ~~Code section for children and their parents, guardians, or other persons having control or~~  
26 ~~charge of children~~ statement of attendance requirements. The parent, guardian, or other

27 person who has control or charge of a child or children shall sign a statement indicating  
28 receipt of such written statement of possible consequences and penalties; children who are  
29 age ten years or older by September 1 shall sign a statement indicating receipt of such  
30 written statement of possible consequences and penalties. After two reasonable attempts  
31 by the school to secure such signature or signatures, the school shall be considered to be  
32 in compliance with this subsection if it sends a copy of the statement, via certified mail,  
33 return receipt requested, or first class mail, to such parent, guardian, or other person who  
34 has control or charge of a child; or children. Public schools shall retain signed copies of  
35 statements through the end of the school year."

36 **SECTION 2.**

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