

House Bill 428

By: Representatives Kaiser of the 59th, Thomas of the 100th, Gardner of the 57th, Manning of the 32nd, Ashe of the 56th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 49-5-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 powers and duties of the Department of Human Resources, so as to provide that financial
3 assistance received by parents adopting a special needs child from such department shall
4 extend to a person taking custody of such child under certain circumstances; to provide for
5 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 49-5-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to powers and
9 duties of the Department of Human Resources, is amended by revising subparagraph
10 (a)(7)(F) as follows:

11 "(F) Providing financial assistance after the consummation of a legal adoption to
12 families adopting children who would otherwise remain in foster care at state expense.
13 Financial assistance may only be granted for hard-to-place children with physical,
14 mental, or emotional disabilities or with other problems for whom it is difficult to find
15 a permanent home. Financial assistance may not exceed 100 percent of the amount
16 paid for boarding such child and for special services such as medical care not available
17 through insurance or public facilities. Such supplements shall only be available to
18 families who could not provide for the child adequately without continued financial
19 assistance. If a person who has adopted a hard-to-place child with a physical, mental,
20 or emotional disability and is receiving financial assistance pursuant to this
21 subparagraph dies, such financial assistance shall continue to be paid to the legal
22 guardian named by the parent of the child until such child reaches the age of 21. The
23 department may review the supplements paid at any time but shall review them at least
24 annually to determine the need for continued assistance;"

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SECTION 2.

26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.