

House Bill 925

By: Representatives Benton of the 31st, McKillip of the 115th, and Walker of the 107th

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~~ United
22 States 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~~ United States 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.