

Senate Bill 396

By: Senator Wiles of the 37th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to general provisions concerning juvenile proceedings, so as to provide
3 for the payment of certain medical expenses incurred by a child while in the custody of the
4 Department of Juvenile Justice; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
5 for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to general provisions concerning juvenile proceedings, is amended by revising Code
10 Section 15-11-8, relating to expenses charged to county, as follows:

11 "15-11-8.

12 (a) The following expenses shall be a charge upon the funds of the county upon
13 certification thereof by the court:

14 (1) The cost of medical and other examinations and treatment of a child ordered by the
15 court;

16 (2) The cost of care and support of a child committed by the court to the legal custody
17 of an individual or a public or private agency other than the Department of Juvenile
18 Justice, but the court may order supplemental payments, if such are necessary or
19 desirable;

20 (3) Reasonable compensation for services and related expenses of counsel appointed by
21 the court, where appointed by the court to represent the child and when appointed by the
22 court to conduct the proceedings;

23 (4) Reasonable compensation for a guardian ad litem;

24 (5) ~~The~~ Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, the expense of service
25 of summons, notices, and subpoenas, travel expenses of witnesses, transportation,

26 subsistence, and detention of the child, and other like expenses incurred in the
 27 proceedings under this chapter; and

28 (6) The cost of counseling and counsel and advice required or provided under the
 29 provisions of Code Sections 15-11-57 and 15-11-68.

30 (b) The following expenses shall be a charge upon the funds of the county upon
 31 certification thereof by the Department of Juvenile Justice:

32 (1) The cost of medical examinations and treatment;

33 (2) The cost of mental health examinations and treatment; and

34 (3) The cost of dental examinations and treatment.

35 ~~(b)~~(c) If, after due notice to the parents or other persons legally obligated to care for and
 36 support the child and after affording them an opportunity to be heard, the court finds that
 37 they are financially able to pay all or part of the costs and expenses stated in subsection (a)
 38 of this Code section, the court may order them to pay the same and prescribe the manner
 39 of payment. In addition, the court may order payment from the parents or other legally
 40 obligated persons to reimburse all or part of the costs and expenses of the Department of
 41 Human Services for treatment, care, and support of the child. Unless otherwise ordered,
 42 payment shall be made to the clerk of the court for remittance to the person or agency,
 43 including the Department of Human Services, to whom compensation is due or, if the costs
 44 and expenses have been paid by the county, to the appropriate officer of the county."

45 **SECTION 2.**

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