

House Bill 314

By: Representatives Dickson of the 6th, Neal of the 1st, and Coleman of the 97th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Subpart 2 of Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of
2 Georgia Annotated, relating to compulsory attendance for students in elementary and
3 secondary education, so as to enact "Jessie's Law"; to provide for a definition; to provide that
4 foster care students are granted excused absences from school to attend court proceedings
5 relating to such students' foster care; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 This Act shall be known and may be cited as "Jessie's Law."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 Subpart 2 of Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
12 Annotated, relating to compulsory attendance for students in elementary and secondary
13 education, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

14 "20-2-692.2.

15 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'foster care student' means a student who is in
16 a foster home or otherwise in the foster care system under the Division of Family and
17 Children Services of the Department of Human Services.

18 (b) A foster care student who attends court proceedings relating to the student's foster care
19 shall be granted excused absences for any day, portion of a day, or days missed from
20 school."

21 **SECTION 3.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.