

Senate Bill 247

By: Senators Stone of the 23rd and Davis of the 22nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 19-8-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to who
2 may adopt a child, so as to allow a court to consider the living arrangements of the
3 prospective adoptive single parent in rendering a decision on a petition for adoption; to
4 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Code Section 19-8-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to who may adopt
8 a child, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

9 "(a) Any adult person may petition to adopt a child if the person:

- 10 (1)(A) ~~Is at least 25 years of age or is married and living with his or her spouse; or~~
- 11 (B) Is at least 25 years of age; provided, however, that a court may consider whether
- 12 such person is living with another adult who may be a consistent presence in the child's
- 13 life, the nature of the relationship, and whether the presence of the other adult or
- 14 relationship will be harmful or beneficial to the child as a factor in considering an
- 15 application for adoption;
- 16 (2) Is at least ten years older than the child;
- 17 (3) Has been a bona fide resident of this state for at least six months immediately
- 18 preceding the filing of the petition; and
- 19 (4) Is financially, physically, and mentally able to have permanent custody of the child."

20 SECTION 2.

21 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.