

House Bill 914 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Wilkerson of the 38th, Chandler of the 105th, Oliver of the 82nd, Welch of the 110th, and Evans of the 42nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to child abuse and deprivation records, so as to provide that certain school personnel
3 who are required to report child abuse shall be notified by the department or governmental
4 child protective agency upon receipt of such report and upon completion of its investigation;
5 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 SECTION 1.

8 Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to child
9 abuse and deprivation records, is amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section
10 49-5-41, relating to persons and agencies permitted access to records, by adding a new
11 paragraph to read as follows:

12 "(5.1) Within 24 hours of a school employee making a report of suspected child abuse
13 pursuant to Code Section 19-7-5, the department or governmental child protective agency
14 that received such report shall acknowledge, in writing, the receipt of such report to the
15 reporting individual. Within five days of completing the investigation of the suspected
16 child abuse, the department or governmental child protective agency shall disclose, in
17 writing, to the school counselor for the school such child was attending at the time of the
18 reported child abuse, advising as to whether the suspected child abuse was confirmed or
19 unconfirmed. If a school does not have a school counselor, such disclosure shall be made
20 to the principal."

21 SECTION 2

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.