

House Bill 696

By: Representatives Welch of the 110th, Willard of the 51st, Oliver of the 82nd, Chandler of the 105th, and Houston of the 170th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions relative to the Department of Human Resources, so as to
3 provide that the department shall, upon request, conduct criminal background investigations
4 as required by the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Behavioral Health
5 and Developmental Disabilities; to provide for the issuance and use of such certification; to
6 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 general provisions relative to the Department of Human Resources, is amended by adding
11 a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "49-2-14.2.

13 (a) The department shall, upon request from the Department of Juvenile Justice and the
14 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, conduct record searches
15 for conviction data on individuals as provided in Code Section 49-2-14.

16 (b) Upon receiving the results of the record search as provided in subsection (a) of this
17 Code section, the department shall issue a certification that the individual concerned does
18 not have a criminal record, as such term is defined in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of
19 Code Section 49-2-14.1. The department shall treat the results of the record search as
20 confidential and shall not disclose any details of such search beyond the issuance of such
21 certification.

22 (c) The Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Behavioral Health and
23 Developmental Disabilities, and any office or division of the department may use the
24 certification issued as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section in lieu of any required
25 records search for conviction data required by law. The certificate shall remain valid for
26 a period of 12 months after the date of issuance."

27

SECTION 2.

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.