

House Bill 950

By: Representatives Bennett of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup>, Abrams of the 89<sup>th</sup>, Chandler of the 105<sup>th</sup>, Hugley of the 136<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 15-11-211 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 a relative search by the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of  
3 Human Services, so as to specify additional information to be provided in the notice to  
4 certain individuals identified in a diligent search conducted as part of a dependency  
5 proceeding; 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 Code Section 15-11-211 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to a relative  
9 search by the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of Human  
10 Services, is amended by revising subsection (c) as follows:

11 "(c) All adult relatives of the alleged dependent child identified in a diligent search  
12 required by this Code section and all parents of a sibling of such child, when such parent  
13 has legal custody of such sibling, subject to exceptions due to family or domestic violence,  
14 shall be provided with notice:

15 (1) Specifying that an alleged dependent child has been or is being removed from his or  
16 her parental custody;

17 (2) Explaining the options a relative has to participate in the care and placement of the  
18 alleged dependent child and any options that may be lost by failing to respond to the  
19 notice. Such notice shall also contain the contact information for a county or regional  
20 DFCS case worker qualified to assist a relative caregiver;

21 (3) Describing the process for becoming an approved foster family home and the  
22 additional services and supports available for children placed in approved foster homes;  
23 and

24 (4) Describing any financial assistance for which a relative may be eligible, including,  
25 but not limited to, any financial assistance available through any pilot program or for  
26 kinship care arrangements."

27

**SECTION 2.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.