

House Bill 330

By: Representatives Abrams of the 89<sup>th</sup>, Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup>, and Hugley of the 136<sup>th</sup>

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 regional DFCS case  
20 worker qualified to assist a kinship caregiver or the contact information for a director of  
21 a county or district department of family and children services;

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

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

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.