

Senate Bill 368

By: Senators Kirk of the 13th, Gooch of the 51st, Hill of the 4th, Wilkinson of the 50th, Harper of the 7th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 6A of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, so as to add to the functions and authority of the
3 council; to enable the council to provide technical support and assistance to certain local law
4 enforcement agencies in the attainment of certain grants; to provide for related matters; to
5 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 6A of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Criminal
9 Justice Coordinating Council, is amended by revising Code Section 35-6A-7, relating to
10 functions and authority of council, as follows:

11 "35-6A-7.

12 The council is vested with the following functions and authority:

13 (1) To cooperate with and secure cooperation of every department, agency, or
14 instrumentality in the state government or its political subdivisions in the furtherance of
15 the purposes of this chapter;

16 (2) To prepare, publish in print or electronically, and disseminate fundamental criminal
17 justice information of a descriptive and analytical nature to all components of the
18 criminal justice system of this state, including law enforcement agencies, the courts,
19 juvenile justice agencies, and correctional agencies;

20 (3) To serve as the state-wide clearing-house for criminal justice information and
21 research;

22 (4) To maintain a research program in order to identify and define significant criminal
23 justice problems and issues and effective solutions and to publish in print or
24 electronically special reports as needed;

- 25 (5) In coordination and cooperation with all components of the criminal justice system
 26 of this state, to develop criminal justice legislative proposals and executive policy
 27 proposals reflective of the priorities of the entire criminal justice system of this state;
 28 (6) To serve in an advisory capacity to the Governor on issues impacting the criminal
 29 justice system of this state;
 30 (7) To coordinate high visibility criminal justice research projects and studies which
 31 cross traditional system component lines with a state-wide impact;
 32 (8) To convene periodically state-wide criminal justice conferences involving key
 33 executives in the criminal justice system of this state and elected officials for the purpose
 34 of developing, prioritizing, and publicizing a policy agenda for the criminal justice
 35 system of this state;
 36 (9) To provide for the interaction, communication, and coordination of all components
 37 of the criminal justice system of this state for the purpose of improving this state's
 38 response to crime and its effects;
 39 (10) To administer gifts, grants, and donations for the purpose of carrying out this
 40 chapter;
 41 (11) To promulgate rules governing the approval of victim assistance programs as
 42 provided for in Article 8 of Chapter 21 of Title 15;
 43 (12) To supervise the preparation, administration, and implementation of the three-year
 44 juvenile justice plan as provided by this chapter; ~~and~~
 45 (13) To provide technical support and assistance to any local law enforcement agency
 46 to enhance the effectiveness of such agency when the council finds that such local law
 47 enforcement agency would otherwise lack access to adequate technical support and
 48 assistance. Support and assistance from the council shall include, but not be limited to,
 49 equipment, grant funding, operations, training, or other official local agency needs; and
 50 (14) To do any and all things necessary and proper to enable it to perform wholly and
 51 adequately its duties and to exercise the authority granted to it."

52 **SECTION 2.**

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