

House Bill 891

By: Representatives Gilliard of the 162nd, Oliver of the 82nd, Gardner of the 57th, Hill of the 3rd, and Thomas of the 56th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to rights
2 of persons with disabilities, so as to define a term; to provide that blind persons shall not be
3 discriminated against by the courts, Department of Human Services, or a child-placing
4 agency in matters relating to child custody, guardianship, visitation, placement, or adoption;
5 to provide for rules and regulations; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws;
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 4 of Title 30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to rights of persons
10 with disabilities, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

11 "30-4-5.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

13 (1) 'Blind' means:

14 (A) Having vision that is 20/200 or less in the best corrected eye; or

15 (B) Having vision that subtends an angle of not greater than 20 degrees in the best
16 corrected eye.

17 (2) 'Department' means the Department of Human Services.

18 (b) Neither a court, the department, nor a child-placing agency shall deny to a party child
19 placement, child custody, visitation, guardianship, or adoption solely or primarily because
20 the party is blind.

21 (c) The department shall promulgate rules or regulations not later than December 31, 2018,
22 implementing the provisions of this Code section."

23 **SECTION 2.**

24 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
25 without such approval.

26

SECTION 3.

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.