

House Bill 395

By: Representatives Scott of the 76th, Jackson of the 64th, Beasley-Teague of the 65th, and Mitchell of the 88th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 35-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 acquisition, collection, classification, and preservation of information assisting in identifying
3 deceased persons and locating missing persons, so as to provide for the immediate opening
4 of investigations of missing veterans and service members who have physical or mental
5 injuries arising from their service; to amend Code Section 35-3-172 of the Official Code of
6 Georgia Annotated, relating to development and implementation of a state-wide alert system
7 for disabled adults and medically endangered persons, so as to include in such alert system
8 missing veterans and service members who have physical or mental injuries arising from
9 their service; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
10 purposes.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

12 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

13 Code Section 35-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to acquisition,
14 collection, classification, and preservation of information assisting in identifying deceased
15 persons and locating missing persons, is amended by revising subsection (c) as follows:

16 "(c) Any law enforcement agency which receives a report that a person who has
17 Alzheimer's disease or other mental illness involving dementia, or is a veteran or active
18 duty member of the regular, reserve, or National Guard component of the United States
19 armed forces or the United States Coast Guard who is believed to have a physical or mental
20 health condition that is related to his or her service is missing shall immediately open an
21 investigation for the purpose of determining such person's whereabouts; and no policy for
22 applying any waiting period prior to initiation of a missing persons investigation shall
23 apply in the case of such a person ~~who has Alzheimer's disease or other mental illnesses~~
24 ~~involving dementia.~~"

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 Code Section 35-3-172 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to development
27 and implementation of a state-wide alert system for disabled adults and medically
28 endangered persons, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

29 "(a) With the cooperation of the office of the Governor, the Georgia Lottery Corporation,
30 and other appropriate law enforcement agencies in this state, the bureau shall develop and
31 implement a state-wide alert system to be activated on behalf of missing disabled adults,
32 ~~and~~ medically endangered persons, and veterans or active duty members of the regular,
33 reserve, or National Guard component of the United States armed forces or the United
34 States Coast Guard who are believed to have a physical or mental health condition that is
35 related to their service."

36 **SECTION 3.**

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