

House Bill 883

By: Representatives Gilliard of the 162nd, Hitchens of the 161st, and Prince of the 127th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to social services, so
2 as to create the Georgia Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force; to provide for duties
3 of the Department of Human Services and the commissioner of human services; to provide
4 for membership; to provide for powers and duties; to provide for related matters; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to social services, is amended
9 by adding a new chapter to read as follows:

10 "CHAPTER 11

11 49-11-1.

12 (a) There is created the Georgia Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force. Such task
13 force shall be responsible for developing and maintaining a comprehensive state plan for
14 strategic, coordinated, and collaborative efforts between educational institutions and
15 community and social services organizations for the implementation and maintenance of
16 programs and initiatives designed to prevent and intervene in criminal gang participation
17 by youth.

18 (b) The Department of Human Services shall provide administrative support for the work
19 of the task force and the commissioner of human services, or his or her designee who shall
20 be an employee of the department, shall serve as secretary of the task force.

21 49-11-2.

22 (a) The Georgia Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force shall consist of 15 members
23 as follows:

- 24 (1) The commissioner of human services or his or her designee;
 25 (2) The State School Superintendent or his or her designee;
 26 (3) The commissioner of juvenile justice or his or her designee;
 27 (4) The president of the Georgia Sheriffs' Association or his or her designee who shall
 28 be an elected sheriff;
 29 (5) The chief executive officer of the State YMCA of Georgia or his or her designee who
 30 shall be employed as a staff member of the State YMCA of Georgia;
 31 (6) The chief executive officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta or his or her
 32 designee who shall be employed as a staff member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro
 33 Atlanta;
 34 (7) The executive director of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia or his
 35 or her designee;
 36 (8) The executive director of the Georgia Municipal Association or his or her designee;
 37 (9) A district attorney appointed by the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia;
 38 (10) Six members who shall be educators or representatives of community or social
 39 service organizations with youth programs as follows:
 40 (A) Two members to be appointed by the Governor where one such member shall be
 41 designated by the Governor to serve as chairperson of the task force and one such
 42 member shall be designated by the Governor to serve as vice chairperson of the task
 43 force;
 44 (B) Two members to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and
 45 (C) Two members to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 46 (b) Members provided for under paragraph (10) of subsection (a) of this Code section shall
 47 each be appointed for a term of two years and no member may serve more than two
 48 consecutive terms. All vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by an appointee of
 49 the original appointing official.
 50 (c) The task force shall hold regular meetings at such times and such places as it may deem
 51 necessary or convenient to enable the task force to exercise fully and effectively its powers,
 52 perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this chapter. Special
 53 meetings may be called by the chairperson or a majority of the members of the task force.
 54 (d) A quorum for transacting business shall be determined by the members of the task
 55 force.
 56 (e) Members shall serve without compensation, although each member shall be reimbursed
 57 for actual expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties from funds available
 58 to the department; provided, however, that any legislative member shall receive the
 59 allowances authorized by law for legislative members of interim legislative committees and
 60 any members who are state employees shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them

61 in the same manner as they are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state
62 employees.

63 49-11-3.

64 The Georgia Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force shall have the following powers
65 and duties:

66 (1) Develop and maintain a comprehensive state plan for strategic, coordinated, and
67 collaborative efforts between educational institutions and community and social services
68 organizations for the purpose of preventing and intervening in criminal gang participation
69 by youth;

70 (2) To provide informational resources, strategic guidance, research, and best practices
71 to social services and community organizations in the implementation of programs and
72 initiatives designed to prevent and intervene in criminal gang participation by youth; and

73 (3) To establish and administrate a program of gang prevention and intervention grants
74 that serve the purposes of this chapter, provided that funds are appropriated by the
75 General Assembly for such purposes or the task force receives sufficient funds from
76 private or federal grants or donations to fund such programs."

77 **SECTION 2.**

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