

House Bill 471

By: Representatives Cheokas of the 151st, Dubnik of the 29th, Greene of the 154th, Hawkins of the 27th, Barrett of the 24th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to require that licensed
3 general hospitals and birthing centers make available a water safety education video to
4 parents or guardians of newborn infants; to provide for a form; to provide for department
5 duties; to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for a definition; to provide for related
6 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 regulation of hospitals and related institutions, is amended by adding a new Code section to
11 read as follows:

12 "31-7-24.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'water safety education' shall have the same
14 meaning as set forth in Code Section 20-2-779.4.

15 (b)(1) Within 24 hours of the birth of a newborn infant, a licensed general hospital or
16 birthing center shall make available to such newborn infant's parent or guardian a video
17 presentation on water safety education to be viewed onsite.

18 (2) Such hospital and birthing center shall provide such parent or guardian with a water
19 safety education form to be developed by the department. Such form shall be signed and
20 dated by the parent or guardian and shall include whether the parent or guardian viewed
21 the video presentation or refused to do so. Upon completion, such form shall be provided
22 to and maintained by the department.

23 (c) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the
24 provisions of this Code section."

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.