



Georgia Department of Human Services
Office of Legislative Affairs & Outreach

2021 General Assembly Legislative Wrap-Up

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stronger families

FOR A STRONGER GEORGIA



House Bill 363

Author: Rep. John LaHood

Summary: Crimes and offenses; protection of elder persons; revise definitions

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



House Resolution 406

Author: Rep. John LaHood

Summary: Georgia Emergency Operations Plans

Effective Date: March 25, 2021



Senate Bill 9

Author: Sen. Lee Anderson

Summary: Creates the new Columbia Judicial Circuit for the State of Georgia

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



Senate Bill 117

Author: Sen. Butch Miller

Summary: Department of Human Services; adds the offenses of improper sexual contact by an employee or agent in the first and second degrees and defines the term

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



Senate Bill 234

Author: Sen. John Kennedy

Summary: Georgia Uniform Mediation Act

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



House Bill 114

Author: Rep. Bert Reeves

Summary: Tax Credits for the Adoption of Children in Foster Care

Effective Date: July 1, 2021, and shall be applicable to adoptions occurring in all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021



House Bill 154

Author: Rep. Bert Reeves

Summary: 2021 foster care and adoption reform to address voluntary surrender, kinship, criminal record checks, forms and notification requirements

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



House Bill 511

Author: Rep. Bert Reeves

Summary: Enabling legislation for constitutional amendment passed on 2021 ballot that dedicates specific fees by general law for 10 years and creates the framework to segregate the collections for each fee dedicated in this manner as a unique trust fund earning interest within the Office of the Treasurer

Effective Date: Except as provided for in Section 23, this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2022



House Bill 548

Author: Rep. Katie Dempsey

Summary: Authorizes DFCS and the Administrative Office of the Courts to work together to develop policies and procedures for purposes of data sharing ensuring compliance with Federal HIPAA law

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



House Bill 562

Author: Rep. Kasey Carpenter

Summary: Adds DFCS case managers to the list of government officials that require notice of warrants for arrest for offenses alleged to have been committed while in the performance of his or her duty

Effective Date: May 10, 2021



Senate Bill 28

Author: Sen. Bo Hatchett

Summary: Updates various definitions involving temporary alternatives to foster care; juvenile court hearsay exceptions; extended youth Services for Minors transitioning to adulthood and improving notice requirements for diligent searches

Effective Date: January 1, 2022



Senate Bill 107

Author: Sen. Brian Strickland

Summary: Provides a waiver of tuition and all fees, for qualifying foster and adopted students at units of the Technical College System of Georgia

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



House Bill 146

Author: Rep. Houston Gaines

Summary: Offers three weeks of paid parental leave after the birth, adoption or foster placement of a child to eligible state employees

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



House Bill 163

Author: Rep. Sharon Cooper

Summary: Directs DCH to submit state plan amendment to implement express lane enrollment in Medicaid

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



Senate Bill 20

Author: Sen. Chuck Payne

Summary: Adds three (3) positions to the Child Advocate Advisory Committee

Effective Date: July 1, 2021



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