

House Bill 1375

By: Representatives Moore of the 95th, Wilson of the 80th, Oliver of the 82nd, Kendrick of the 93rd, Dreyer of the 59th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 9 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 workers' compensation, so as to eliminate cohabitation as a basis upon which to terminate
3 the dependency of a spouse and cease workers' compensation payments; to provide for
4 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 Chapter 9 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to workers'
8 compensation, is amended by revising subsection (e) of Code Section 34-9-13, relating to
9 definitions, persons presumed next of kin, apportionment of payments among partial and
10 total dependents, and termination of dependency, as follows:

11 "(e) For the purpose of this chapter, the dependency of a spouse upon a deceased employee
12 shall terminate with remarriage ~~or cohabitation in a meretricious relationship~~; and for this
13 ~~purpose cohabitation in a meretricious relationship shall be a relationship in which persons~~
14 ~~of the opposite sex live together continuously and openly in a relationship similar or akin~~
15 ~~to marriage, which relationship includes either sexual intercourse or the sharing of living~~
16 ~~expenses.~~ The dependency of a child, except a child physically or mentally incapable of

17 earning a livelihood, shall terminate with the attainment of 18 years of age, except as
18 provided in paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of this Code section. The dependency of a
19 spouse and of a partial dependent shall terminate at age 65 or after payment of 400 weeks
20 of benefits, whichever provides greater benefits."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.