



HOUSE BILL 744

GEORGIA BUDGET TRANSITION OF CSEC FUNDS

Signed into law by Governor Nathan Deal on Monday, April 28, 2014.

Key provisions:

- The funds for CSEC prevention initiatives were transferred from the Governor's Office of Children and Families (GOCF) to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC).
- GOCF previously led the statewide initiative to end Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children since 2009 through infrastructure development, convening a quarterly task force, and providing resources and services to victims of CSEC.
 - This included providing training for identifying CSEC victims, educating law enforcement and prosecutors on the unique needs of this population, and increasing general awareness of CSEC; leading the Statewide CSEC Task Force since 2008 and creating the Georgia Care Connection Office (now known as Georgia Cares) to be single point of entry to coordinate services for victims of CSEC.
- HB 744, Section 26.5.3 shows the directive to "Transfer funds and one position for commercial sexual exploitation prevention initiatives activities to the CJCC."
 - This budget line reflects \$991,680 transferring to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC).
- In July of 2014, the Governor made further changes by dismantling the GOCF office, splitting the remaining positions between the CJCC and Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). In addition, the Juvenile Justice and Family Violence work of the GOCF transferred to CJCC, and the Youth Development and Child Abuse work transferred to DFCS.