

Senate Bill 89

By: Senators Merritt of the 9th, Dolezal of the 27th, Strickland of the 17th, Esteves of the 6th, Islam of the 7th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ethics
2 in government, so as to provide that child care and other caregiving services associated with
3 a candidate's campaign constitute ordinary and necessary expenses of a campaign; to provide
4 for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

8 Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ethics in
9 government, is amended in Code Section 21-5-3, relating to definitions, by revising
10 paragraph (18) and adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

11 "(4.1) 'Caregiving services' means direct care, protection, and supervision of a child or
12 other person with a disability or medical condition for whom a candidate has direct
13 caregiving responsibility."

14 "(18) 'Ordinary and necessary expenses' shall include, but shall not be limited to,
15 expenditures made during the reporting period for qualifying fees; office costs and rent;
16 lodging; equipment; travel; advertising; postage; staff salaries; consultants; files
17 storage; polling; special events; volunteers; reimbursements to volunteers; repayment

18 of any loans received except as restricted under subsection (i) of Code Section 21-5-41; ;
19 contributions to nonprofit organizations; ; flowers for special occasions, which shall
20 include, but are not limited to, birthdays and funerals; ; attorney fees connected to and in
21 the furtherance of the campaign; ; caregiving services in direct connection with the
22 candidate's campaign activity; and all other expenditures contemplated in Code
23 Section 21-5-33."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
26 without such approval.

27 **SECTION 3.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.