

HB 2275 -- Forensic Examinations

Sponsor: Johnson

This bill changes the laws regarding forensic examinations on victims of alleged sexual offenses. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Specifies that if a medical provider reasonably believes the sexual offender could be a parent or guardian of the victim and the victim is younger than 18 years of age, the provider is only required to provide written notice of the examination to the nonoffending parent or guardian;
- (2) Requires the Attorney General to develop separate forms and procedures for gathering evidence during the forensic examination for victims 14 years of age and younger and for victims 15 years of age and older;
- (3) Requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to develop separate checklists for providers to use while providing care for victims 14 years of age and younger and for victims 15 years of age and older;
- (4) Requires the Department of Public Safety to pay for forensic examinations. Currently, the Department of Health and Senior Services pays for the examinations;
- (5) Creates the Sexual Offense Forensic Examination Compensation Fund to be used by the Department of Public Safety to pay for the forensic examination of a person who may be the victim of a sexual offense; and
- (6) Allows, beginning September 1, 2008, and on the first of each month thereafter, money from the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund to be deposited into the Sexual Offense Forensic Examination Compensation Fund.