

HB 1815 -- EVIDENTIARY COLLECTION KITS

SPONSOR: Kelly (141)

This bill modifies current law regarding procedures for tracking evidentiary collection kits.

Currently, the Attorney General must establish an electronic tracking system for evidentiary collection kits and their components, including individual specimen containers. This bill removes the requirement to track the individual components, while retaining the requirement to track the kits.

Currently, the Attorney General is required to permit sexual assault victims or their designees access to the system to monitor the current status of their kits. This bill allows such victims to track, obtain reports, and receive updates on the status and location of their kits through a secure web-based or similar system that allows victims or their designees to register to be notified by mail, phone, text, email, or other similar electronic communication of any updates on the status and location of their kits.

This bill requires appropriate medical providers, law enforcement agencies, laboratories, court personnel, persons or entities involved in the final disposition or destruction of the kits, and all other entities and persons having custody of the kits to participate in the tracking system.

The Department of Public Safety, with the advice of the Attorney General and the assistance of the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall develop and retain within the state a central repository for unreported evidentiary collection kits that is temperature-controlled to preserve the integrity of the kits and diminish degradation. Unreported kits shall be retained for 30 years.

Finally, records entered into the electronic tracking system shall be confidential and not subject to disclosure under state law.

This bill is similar to SB 569 (2020).