

HB 1179 -- VICTIMS OF SEXUAL OFFENSES

SPONSOR: Kelly (141)

The bill requires any hospital to perform a forensic examination by an appropriate medical provider using an evidentiary collection kit upon the request and consent of the victim of a sexual offense or their guardian. Victims under age 14 shall be referred to a SAFE CARE provider for medical or forensic evaluation and case review. If an appropriate medical provider is not available on-site then they shall make access of the telehealth network unless adequate access is not available.

No hospital shall be required to comply with the telehealth network provisions until the Department of Health and Senior Services provides access to the statewide telehealth network as well as mentoring and training such hospitals without charge.