

House Bill 631 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Reed of the 52<sup>nd</sup> and Campbell of the 42<sup>nd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 50-18-72 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 when public disclosure shall not be required under Article 4 of Chapter 18 of Title 50, so as  
3 to exempt disclosure of photographs of dead bodies of homicide victims absent a release  
4 from the deceased's spouse, parents, or adult children; to provide for related matters; to  
5 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 50-18-72 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to when public  
9 disclosure shall not be required under Article 4 of Chapter 18 of Title 50, is amended by  
10 striking paragraph (2) of subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "(2) Medical or veterinary records and similar files, the disclosure of which would be an  
12 invasion of personal privacy; For purposes of this subsection, photographs of bodies of  
13 homicide victims taken as part of a closed law enforcement investigation of the homicide are  
14 exempt from publication of any kind unless the photographs are specifically released by the  
15 deceased's spouse, parent, or adult children. The party requesting the photographs shall have  
16 the duty of securing a written release from the deceased's spouse, if any, and if none, the  
17 surviving parents, and if not living, then a majority of the adult children of the deceased."

18 **SECTION 2.**

19 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.