

The House Committee on Special Judiciary offers the following substitute to SB 419:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 17-17-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to notification by the prosecuting attorney of legal procedures and of victim's rights in relation to legal procedures, so as to add notification for restitution matters and victim compensation to the list of required notifications; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

Code Section 17-17-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to notification by the prosecuting attorney of legal procedures and of victim's rights in relation to legal procedures, is amended by striking the Code section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"17-17-8.

(a) Upon initial contact with a victim, a prosecuting attorney shall give prompt notification to the victim of the following:

(1) The procedural steps in processing a criminal case;

(2) The rights and procedures of victims under this chapter;

(3) Suggested procedures if the victim is subjected to threats or intimidation; and

(4) The names and telephone numbers of contact persons at both the office of the custodial authority and in the prosecuting attorney's office;

(5) The rights and procedures of victims under Chapter 14 of this title relating to restitution and distribution of profits to victims of crimes, including, but not limited to, all reasonable and necessary medical expenses incurred by the victim and which reasonably will be incurred by the victim for treatment of the physical and emotional injuries caused by the person in perpetrating the crime against the victim, including expenses related to psychological counseling and treatment by a provider licensed pursuant to Title 43; and

1     (6) The rights of victims and the procedures they must follow to receive compensation  
2     under Chapter 15 of this title, relating to victim compensation.

3     (b) If requested in writing by the victim and to the extent possible, the prosecuting attorney  
4     shall give prompt advance notification of any scheduled court proceedings and notice of  
5     any changes to that schedule. Court proceedings shall include, but not be limited to, pretrial  
6     commitment hearings, arraignment, motion hearings, trial, sentencing, restitution hearings,  
7     appellate review, and post-conviction relief. The prosecuting attorney shall notify all  
8     victims of the requirement to make such request in writing."

9                                   **SECTION 2.**

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