

House Bill 188 (AM)

By: Representatives Burmeister of the 119th and Rynders of the 152nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to crimes
2 against the person, so as to require that the photograph of a person who is convicted of
3 certain crimes for which such person is required to register as a sexual offender shall be
4 published in the legal organ of the county in which such person resides after release from
5 confinement; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 5 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to crimes against
10 the person, is amended by adding a new Article 9 to read as follows:

11 "ARTICLE 9

12 16-5-110.

13 (a) When a person who has been convicted of a crime for which that person is required to
14 register under Code Section 42-1-12 makes his or her first report to a sheriff after such
15 person's release from confinement, the sheriff shall cause to be published a notice of
16 conviction and release from confinement of such person. Such notice shall be published in
17 the manner of legal notices in the legal organ of the county in which person resides. Such
18 notice shall be one column wide by two inches long and shall contain the photograph taken
19 by the arresting law enforcement agency at the time of arrest or a subsequent photograph,
20 the name and address of the convicted person, and the date, time, place of arrest, and
21 disposition of the case and shall be published once in the legal organ of the appropriate
22 county in the second week following such person's release from confinement or as soon
23 thereafter as publication may be made. The notice shall include the address of the Georgia

1 Bureau of Investigation website for additional information regarding the sexual offender
2 registry.

3 (b) The convicted person for which a notice of conviction and release from confinement
4 is published pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section shall be assessed \$25.00 for the
5 cost of publication of such notice, and such assessment shall be imposed at the time of
6 reporting to the sheriff's office.

7 (c) The sheriff, the publisher of any legal organ which publishes a notice of conviction and
8 release from confinement, and any other person involved in the publication of an erroneous
9 notice of conviction and release from confinement shall be immune from civil or criminal
10 liability for such erroneous publication, provided that such publication was made in good
11 faith."

12 **SECTION 2.**

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