

House Bill 722

By: Representatives Forster of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Rice of the 51<sup>st</sup>, Cooper of the 41<sup>st</sup>, Randall of the 138<sup>th</sup>, Walker of the 107<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 6 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sexual  
2 offenses, so as to raise the age of consent from 16 to 18 years of age; to change the  
3 provisions relating to the crimes of statutory rape, child molestation, and enticing a child for  
4 indecent purposes; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and  
5 applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 6 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sexual offenses,  
9 is amended by striking Code Section 16-6-3, relating to statutory rape, and inserting in lieu  
10 thereof a new Code Section 16-6-3 to read as follows:

11 "16-6-3.

12 (a) A person commits the offense of statutory rape when he or she engages in sexual  
13 intercourse with any person under the age of ~~16~~ 18 years and not his or her spouse,  
14 provided that no conviction shall be had for this offense on the unsupported testimony of  
15 the victim.

16 (b) A person convicted of the offense of statutory rape shall be punished by imprisonment  
17 for not less than one nor more than 20 years; provided, however, that if the person so  
18 convicted is 21 years of age or older, such person shall be punished by imprisonment for  
19 not less than ten nor more than 20 years; provided, further, that if the victim is not less than  
20 14 or 15 nor more than 17 years of age and the person so convicted is no more than three  
21 years older than the victim, such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (a) of Code Section 16-6-4, relating  
24 to child molestation, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

