

Senate Bill 157

By: Senators Harp of the 29th, Cowser of the 46th, Orrock of the 36th, Adelman of the 42nd, Butler of the 55th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To change and enact provisions of law relating to classification of sexual offenders, sexual
2 offender registration, and restrictions on sexual offenders' residences, workplaces, and
3 activities; to amend Code Section 5-6-35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating
4 to appeals requiring an application for appeal, so as to make such Code section applicable
5 to appeals from decisions of superior courts reviewing a decision of the Sexual Offender
6 Registration Review Board; to amend Article 1 of Chapter 10 of Title 17 of the Official Code
7 of Georgia Annotated, relating to procedures for sentencing in criminal cases, so as to
8 provide that, with respect to sexual offenses committed after a certain date in this state,
9 classification shall be by the sentencing court rather than the Sexual Offender Registration
10 Review Board; to amend Article 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 42 of the Official Code of Georgia
11 Annotated, relating to classification and registration of sexual offenders and regulation of the
12 conduct of such offenders, so as to revise provisions relating to registration of sexual
13 offenders; to change certain definitions; to require the Department of Corrections to forward
14 certain information to sheriffs; to provide for registration and reporting by sexual offenders
15 who do not have a residence address; to provide for taking of palm prints and DNA samples
16 in certain cases; to change certain provisions relative to relief from registration; to change
17 provisions relating to residence, workplace, and volunteering restrictions; to change
18 provisions relating to the time frame a sheriff has to update certain information; to remove
19 annual registration fees; to change registration criteria for persons moving to this state; to
20 change certain penalty provisions; to change restrictions on volunteer and religious activities;
21 to revise provisions relative to classification of sex offenders; to revise certain definitions;
22 to change provisions relative to the process of classification by the Sexual Offender
23 Registration Review Board and review of such classifications; to provide for procedure and
24 review; to provide a mechanism for certain elderly and disabled sexual offenders to petition
25 the superior court to be released from certain residency requirements; to provide for other
26 related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
27 purposes.

28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

29 **SECTION 1.**

30 Code Section 5-6-35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to appeals requiring
31 an application for appeal, is amended by adding a new paragraph to subsection (a) to read
32 as follows:

33 "(5.1) Appeals from decisions of superior courts reviewing decisions of the Sexual
34 Offender Registration Review Board;"

35 **SECTION 2.**

36 Article 1 of Chapter 10 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
37 procedures for sentencing in criminal cases, is amended by adding a new Code section to
38 read as follows:

39 "17-10-6.4.

40 (a) As used in this Code section, any term which is defined in Article 2 of Chapter 1 of
41 Title 42 shall have the meaning specified in that article.

42 (b) With respect to a sexual offender convicted in this state of a crime committed on or
43 after the effective date of this Code section, the sentencing court shall determine the
44 likelihood that a sexual offender will engage in another crime against a victim who is a
45 minor or a dangerous sexual offense. A sexual offender shall as a part of the sentencing
46 process be placed into Level I risk assessment classification, Level II risk assessment
47 classification, or sexually dangerous predator classification based upon the court's review
48 of:

49 (1) A risk assessment profile of the offender to be completed by the Department of
50 Corrections prior to sentencing, which profile has been approved for such use by the
51 Board of Corrections;

52 (2) Any evidence introduced by the prosecution; and

53 (3) Any evidence introduced by the defense.

54 Sexual history polygraph information shall also be admissible for this purpose.

55 (c) All information considered by the court in its determination of the classification shall
56 be a matter of public record, unless the court determines that some specific portion of such
57 information would invade the privacy of a person other than the sexual offender, in which
58 case the court may enter an order sealing that specific portion of the record.

59 (d) Any appeal of the court's determination of classification shall be combined with any
60 other appeal arising from the conviction, so that there shall be a single appeal of all issues
61 in the case."

62 **SECTION 3.**

63 Article 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
64 classification and registration of sexual offenders and regulation of the conduct of such
65 offenders, is amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
66 Registry, by revising portions of subsection (a) as follows:

67 Paragraph (1) of subsection (a) is revised as follows:

68 "(1) 'Address' means the street or route address of the sexual offender's residence. For
69 purposes of this Code section, the term ~~does~~ shall not mean a post office box, ~~and~~
70 ~~homeless does not constitute an address.~~ The term shall include any place where the
71 sexual offender sleeps, such as a shelter or structure that can be located by a street
72 address or other description, including, but not limited to, apartments, buildings, motels,
73 hotels, homeless shelters, and parked vehicles."

74 Paragraph (6) of subsection (a) is revised as follows:

75 "(6) 'Child care facility' means all public and private pre-kindergarten facilities, day-care
76 centers, child care learning centers, preschool facilities, and long-term care facilities for
77 children. Such term shall not include private, in-home child day care which is not
78 licensed by this state."

79 Divisions (a)(9)(A)(i) and (a)(9)(A)(ii) are revised as follows:

80 "(i) Kidnapping of a minor, except by a parent, when the offense by its nature is a
81 sexual offense against a minor or an attempt to commit a sexual offense against a
82 minor;
83 (ii) False imprisonment of a minor, except by a parent, when the offense by its nature
84 is a sexual offense against a minor or an attempt to commit a sexual offense against
85 a minor;"

86 Divisions (a)(9)(B)(i) and (a)(9)(B)(ii) are revised as follows:

87 "(i) Kidnapping of a minor, except by a parent, when the offense by its nature is a
88 sexual offense against a minor or an attempt to commit a sexual offense against a
89 minor;
90 (ii) False imprisonment of a minor, except by a parent, when the offense by its nature
91 is a sexual offense against a minor or an attempt to commit a sexual offense against
92 a minor;"

93 Subparagraph (a)(9)(C) is revised as follows:

94 "(C) For purposes of ~~subparagraph (a)(9)(B)~~ of this Code section, conduct which is
95 punished as ~~for~~ a misdemeanor ~~or~~ shall not be considered a criminal offense against a
96 victim who is a minor, and conduct which is prosecuted adjudicated in juvenile court
97 shall not be considered a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor."

98 Subparagraph (a)(16)(K) is revised as follows:

99 "(K) E-mail addresses; and usernames; ~~and user passwords;~~ and"

100 Paragraph (17) of subsection (a) is revised as follows:

101 "(17) 'Risk assessment classification' means the ~~notification level into which a sexual~~
 102 ~~offender is placed based on the board's assessment~~ classification of a sexual offender as
 103 a Level I risk assessment, Level II risk assessment, or sexually dangerous predator by the
 104 board or a court sentencing under Code Section 17-10-6.4."

105 Paragraph (21) of subsection (a) is revised as follows:

106 "(21) 'Sexually dangerous predator' means a sexual offender:

107 (A) Who was designated as a sexually violent predator between July 1, 1996, and June
 108 30, 2006; or

109 (B) Who is determined by the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board or a court
 110 sentencing under Code Section 17-10-6.4 to be at risk of perpetrating any future
 111 dangerous sexual offense."

112 SECTION 4.

113 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
 114 Registry, by revising paragraphs (1) and (8) of subsection (b) as follows:

115 "(1) Inform the sexual offender of the obligation to register, ~~the amount of the~~
 116 ~~registration fee,~~ and how to maintain registration;"

117 "(8) At least 15 days prior to such release, obtain ~~Obtain~~ and forward any information
 118 obtained from the clerk of court pursuant to Code Section 42-5-50 to the sheriff's office
 119 of the county in which the sexual offender will reside; and"

120 SECTION 5.

121 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
 122 Registry, by revising paragraph (3) of subsection (c) as follows:

123 "~~Forward the sexual offender's fingerprints and photograph~~ At least 15 days prior to
 124 the sexual offender's release from prison, placement on parole or supervised release, or
 125 within three business days after a sexual offender's placement on probation, the following
 126 information shall be forwarded to the sheriff's office of the county where the sexual
 127 offender is going to reside;

128 (A) The sexual offender's fingerprints, palm print, and photograph;

129 (B) The sexual offender's crime of conviction, including conviction date and the
 130 jurisdiction of the conviction; and

131 (C) The sexual offender's address;"

132 **SECTION 6.**

133 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
 134 Registry, by revising paragraph (6) of subsection (e) as follows:

135 ~~"(6) Is a nonresident sexual offender who changes residence from another state or~~
 136 ~~territory of the United States~~ any other place to Georgia who is required to register as a
 137 sexual offender under federal law, military law, tribal law, or the laws of another state or
 138 territory, ~~regardless of when the conviction occurred~~ or who has been convicted in this
 139 state of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor or any dangerous sexual
 140 offense;"

141 **SECTION 7.**

142 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
 143 Registry, by revising subsection (f) as follows:

144 "(f) Any sexual offender required to register under this Code section shall:

145 (1) Provide the required registration information to the appropriate official before being
 146 released from prison or placed on parole, supervised release, or probation;

147 (2) Register in person with the sheriff of the county in which the sexual offender resides
 148 within 72 hours after the sexual offender's release from prison or placement on parole,
 149 supervised release, probation, or entry into this state;

150 (2.1) In the case of a sexual offender who does not have a residence address, in lieu of
 151 the requirements of paragraph (2) of this subsection, register in person with the sheriff
 152 of the county in which the sexual offender sleeps within 72 hours after the sexual
 153 offender's release from prison or placement on parole, supervised release, probation, or
 154 entry into this state and:

155 (A) Provide the places where he or she sleeps, eats, and works and other places which
 156 he or she frequents; and

157 (B) Report weekly in person to the sheriff of the county in which he or she sleeps on
 158 a day specified by the sheriff during normal business hours and update any changes in
 159 the information required under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

160 (3) Maintain the required registration information with the sheriff of the county in which
 161 the sexual offender resides;

162 (4) Renew the required registration information with the sheriff of the county in which
 163 the sexual offender resides by reporting in person to the sheriff within 72 hours prior to
 164 such offender's birthday each year to be photographed, palm printed, and fingerprinted
 165 and provide a noninvasive DNA sample if none has previously been taken; provided,
 166 however, that the taking of palm prints and fingerprints shall be optional with the sheriff;

167 (5) Update the required registration information with the sheriff of the county in which
 168 the sexual offender resides or sleeps within 72 hours of any change to the required
 169 registration information, other than residence address; ~~if.~~ If the information is the sexual
 170 offender's new residence address, the sexual offender shall give the information regarding
 171 the sexual offender's new residence address to the sheriff of the county with whom the
 172 sexual offender last registered and to the sheriff of the county to which the sexual
 173 offender is moving within 72 hours prior to any change of residence address ~~and.~~ The
 174 sexual offender shall give information regarding a change in employment location or a
 175 change in attendance at an institution of higher education to the sheriff of the county to
 176 which the sexual offender is moving within 72 hours after establishing ~~the~~ such new
 177 residence place of employment or attendance at an institution of higher education; and
 178 (6) ~~If convicted of a dangerous sexual offense on or after July 1, 2006, pay to the sheriff~~
 179 ~~of the county where the sexual offender resides an annual registration fee of \$250.00~~
 180 ~~upon each anniversary of such registration; and~~
 181 (7) Continue to comply with the registration requirements of this Code section for the
 182 entire life of the sexual offender, ~~including~~ excluding ensuing periods of incarceration."

183 **SECTION 8.**

184 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
 185 Registry, by revising subparagraph (g)(2)(B) as follows:

186 "(B) ~~Have had ten years elapse since his or her release from prison, parole, supervised~~
 187 ~~release, or probation~~ completed his or her sentence, including any period of parole or
 188 probation."

189 **SECTION 9.**

190 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
 191 Registry, by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (h) as follows:

192 "(h)(1) The appropriate official or sheriff shall, within ~~72 hours~~ three working days after
 193 receipt of the required registration information, forward such information to the Georgia
 194 Bureau of Investigation. Once the data is entered into the Criminal Justice Information
 195 System by the appropriate official or sheriff, the Georgia Crime Information Center shall
 196 notify the sheriff of the sexual offender's county of residence, either permanent or
 197 temporary, the sheriff of the county of employment, and the sheriff of the county where
 198 the sexual offender attends an institution of higher education within 24 hours of entering
 199 the data or any change to the data."

200 **SECTION 10.**

201 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
202 Registry, by revising paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (12), (13), and (14) of subsection (i)
203 as follows:

204 "(2) Electronically submit and update all information provided by the sexual offender
205 within ~~two~~ three working days to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in a manner
206 prescribed by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation;

207 (3) Maintain ~~and post~~ a list of every sexual offender residing in each county and
208 electronically submit and update such list for posting or electronic access:

209 (A) In the sheriff's office;

210 (B) In any county administrative building;

211 (C) In the main administrative building for any municipal corporation;

212 (D) In the office of the clerk of the superior court so that such list is available to the
213 public; and

214 (E) On a website maintained by the sheriff of the county for the posting of general
215 information;

216 (4) Update the public notices required by paragraph (3) of this Code section within ~~two~~
217 three working days;"

218 "(6) Update the list of sexual offenders residing in the county upon receipt of new
219 information affecting the residence address of a sexual offender or upon the registration
220 of a sexual offender moving into the county by virtue of release from prison, relocation
221 from another county, or conviction in another state, federal court, military tribunal, or
222 tribal court. Such list, and any additions to such list, shall be delivered, physically or
223 electronically, within ~~72 hours~~ three working days of updating the list of sexual offenders
224 residing in the county, to all schools or institutions of higher education located in the
225 county;

226 (7) Within ~~72 hours~~ three working days of the receipt of changed required registration
227 information, notify the Georgia Bureau of Investigation through the Criminal Justice
228 Information System of each change of information;"

229 "(12) If required by Code Section 42-1-14, place any electronic monitoring system on
230 the sexually dangerous predator and explain its operation and cost; and

231 (13) Provide current information on names and addresses of all registered sexual
232 offenders to campus police with jurisdiction for the campus of an institution of higher
233 education if the campus is within the sheriff's jurisdiction; ~~and~~

234 ~~(14) Collect the annual \$250.00 registration fee from the sexual offender and transmit~~
235 ~~such fees to the state for deposit into the general fund."~~

236 **SECTION 11.**

237 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-12, relating to the State Sexual Offender
238 Registry, by revising subsection (n) as follows:

239 "(n) Any individual who:

240 (1) Is required to register under this Code section and who fails to comply with the
241 requirements of this Code section;

242 (2) Provides false information; or

243 (3) Fails to respond directly to the sheriff ~~within~~ of the county where he or she resides
244 or sleeps 72 hours of prior to such individual's birthday

245 shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than ten nor
246 more than 30 years; ~~provided, however, that upon the conviction of the second offense~~
247 ~~under this subsection, the defendant shall be punished by imprisonment for life."~~

248 **SECTION 12.**

249 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 42-1-14, relating to risk assessment
250 classifications, as follows:

251 "42-1-14.

252 (a)(1) With respect to crimes committed in this state on or after the effective date of this
253 paragraph classification of sexual offenders shall be by the sentencing court as provided
254 in Code Section 17-10-6.4; and no action shall be taken by the board with respect to such
255 sexual offenders.

256 (2) With respect to sexual offenders other than those committing crimes in this state on
257 or after the effective date of paragraph (1) of this subsection the ~~The~~ board shall
258 determine the likelihood that a sexual offender will engage in another crime against a
259 victim who is a minor or a dangerous sexual offense. The board shall make such
260 determination for any sexual offender convicted on or after July 1, 2006, of a criminal act
261 against a minor or a dangerous sexual offense and for any sexual offender incarcerated
262 on July 1, 2006, but convicted prior to July 1, 2006, of a criminal act against a minor. In
263 addition, any sexual offender who changes residence from another state or territory of the
264 United States to this state and who is not already designated under Georgia law as a
265 sexually dangerous predator, sexual predator, or a sexually violent predator shall have his
266 or her required registration information forwarded by the sheriff of his or her county of
267 registration to the board for the purpose of risk assessment classification. ~~Such~~
268 ~~determination shall not be required to be made by the board until January 1, 2007;~~
269 ~~provided, however, that such persons shall be subject to this Code section.~~

270 (3) A sexual offender shall be placed into Level I risk assessment classification, Level
271 II risk assessment classification, or sexually dangerous predator classification based upon

272 the board's assessment criteria and information obtained and reviewed by the board. The
 273 sexual offender may provide the board with information including, but not limited to,
 274 psychological evaluations, ~~sexual history polygraph information~~, treatment history, and
 275 personal, social, educational, and work history, and may agree to submit to a
 276 psychosexual evaluation or sexual history polygraph conducted by the board. If the
 277 sexual offender has undergone treatment through the Department of Corrections, such
 278 treatment records shall also be submitted to the board for evaluation. The prosecuting
 279 attorney shall provide the board with any information available to assist the board in
 280 rendering an opinion, including, but not limited to, criminal history and records related
 281 to previous criminal history. On and after July 1, 2006, the clerk of court shall send a
 282 copy of the sexual offender's conviction to the board and notify the board that a sexual
 283 offender's evaluation will need to be performed. ~~The board shall render its~~
 284 ~~recommendation for risk assessment classification within:~~

285 ~~(1) Sixty days of receipt of a request for an evaluation if the sexual offender is being~~
 286 ~~sentenced pursuant to subsection (c) of Code Section 17-10-6.2;~~

287 ~~(2) Six months prior to the sexual offender's proposed release from confinement if the~~
 288 ~~offender is incarcerated; and~~

289 ~~(3) Forty-five days of receipt of the required registration information if the sexual~~
 290 ~~offender has entered this state from another state and registered as a sexual offender.~~

291 (4) The board shall notify the sex offender by first class mail of its determination of send
 292 a copy of its risk assessment classification and shall send a copy of such classification to
 293 the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Corrections, the sheriff of the
 294 county where the sexual offender resides, ~~sexual offender~~, and the sentencing court, if
 295 applicable.

296 ~~(b)(1) If the sexual offender has been sentenced pursuant to subsection (c) of Code~~
 297 ~~Section 17-10-6.2, after receiving a recommendation from the board that he or she be~~
 298 ~~classified as a sexually dangerous predator, the sexual offender may request that the~~
 299 ~~sentencing court set a date to conduct a hearing affording the sexual offender the~~
 300 ~~opportunity to present testimony or evidence relevant to the recommended classification.~~
 301 ~~After the hearing and within 60 days of receiving the report, the court shall issue a ruling~~
 302 ~~as to whether or not the sexual offender shall be classified as a sexually dangerous~~
 303 ~~predator. If the court determines the sexual offender to be a sexually dangerous predator,~~
 304 ~~such fact shall be communicated in writing to the appropriate official, the Georgia Bureau~~
 305 ~~of Investigation, and the sheriff of the county where the sexual offender resides. If the~~
 306 ~~board determines that a sexual offender should be classified as a sexually dangerous~~
 307 ~~predator, the sexual offender may petition the board to reevaluate his or her classification.~~
 308 ~~To file a petition for reevaluation, the sexual offender shall be required to submit his or~~

309 her written petition for reevaluation to the board within 20 days from the date of the letter
310 notifying the sexual offender of his or her classification. The sexual offender shall have
311 60 days from the date of the notification letter to submit information as provided in
312 subsection (a) of this Code section in support of the sexual offender's petition for
313 reevaluation. If the sexual offender fails to submit the petition or supporting documents
314 within the time limits provided, the classification shall be final. The board shall notify
315 the sexual offender by first class mail of its decision on the petition for reevaluation of
316 risk assessment classification and shall send a copy of such notification to the Georgia
317 Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Corrections, the sheriff of the county where
318 the sexual offender resides, and the sentencing court, if applicable.

319 ~~(2) If the sexual offender received a sentence of imprisonment and was sentenced for a~~
320 ~~dangerous sexual offense on or after July 1, 2006, or if the sexual offender is incarcerated~~
321 ~~on July 1, 2006, for a crime against a victim who is a minor, after receiving a~~
322 ~~recommendation from the board that he or she be classified as a sexually dangerous~~
323 ~~predator, the sexual offender may request that the sentencing court set a date to conduct~~
324 ~~a hearing affording the sexual offender the opportunity to present testimony or evidence~~
325 ~~relevant to the recommended classification. After the hearing and within 60 days of~~
326 ~~receiving the report, the court shall issue a ruling as to whether or not the sexual offender~~
327 ~~shall be classified as a sexually dangerous predator. If the court determines the sexual~~
328 ~~offender to be a sexually dangerous predator, such fact shall be communicated in writing~~
329 ~~to the appropriate official, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, and the sheriff of the~~
330 ~~county where the sexual offender resides. A sexual offender who is classified by the~~
331 ~~board as a sexually dangerous predator may file a petition for judicial review of his or her~~
332 ~~classification within 30 days of the date of the notification letter, or, if the sexual offender~~
333 ~~has requested reevaluation, within 30 days of the date of the letter denying the petition~~
334 ~~for reevaluation. The petition for judicial review shall name the board as defendant and~~
335 ~~the petition shall be filed in the superior court of the county where the offices of the board~~
336 ~~are located. Within 30 days after service of the appeal on the board, the board shall~~
337 ~~submit a summary of its findings to the trial court and mail a copy, by first class mail, to~~
338 ~~the sexual offender. The findings of the board shall be considered prima-facie evidence~~
339 ~~of the classification. The superior court may uphold the classification of the board or if~~
340 ~~the superior court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the sexual offender is~~
341 ~~not a sexually dangerous predator, then the sexual offender shall be placed into Level II~~
342 ~~risk assessment classification. The determination made by the superior court shall be~~
343 ~~forwarded by the clerk of the superior court to the board, the Georgia Bureau of~~
344 ~~Investigation, and the sheriff of the county where the sexual offender resides.~~

345 ~~(c) Any sexual offender who changes residence from another state or territory of the~~
346 ~~United States to this state and who is not designated as a sexually dangerous predator,~~
347 ~~sexual predator, or a sexually violent predator shall have his or her required registration~~
348 ~~information forwarded by the sheriff of his or her county of registration to the board for the~~
349 ~~purpose of risk assessment classification. After receiving a recommendation from the~~
350 ~~board that he or she be classified as a sexually dangerous predator, the sexual offender~~
351 ~~may, within 30 days after the issuance of such classification, request a hearing before an~~
352 ~~administrative law judge. Such hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 13~~
353 ~~of Title 50, the 'Georgia Administrative Procedure Act.' The decision of the administrative~~
354 ~~law judge shall constitute the final decision of the board subject to the right of judicial~~
355 ~~review in accordance with Chapter 13 of Title 50. If the final determination is that the~~
356 ~~sexual offender is classified as a sexually dangerous predator, such fact shall be~~
357 ~~communicated in writing to the appropriate official, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation,~~
358 ~~and the sheriff of the county where the sexual offender resides.~~

359 (d) Any individual who was classified as a sexually violent predator prior to July 1, 2006,
360 shall be classified as a sexually dangerous predator on and after July 1, 2006.

361 (e) (d) Any sexually dangerous predator shall be required to wear an electronic monitoring
362 system that shall have, at a minimum:

363 (1) The capacity to locate and record the location of a sexually dangerous predator by a
364 link to a global positioning satellite system;

365 (2) The capacity to timely report or record a sexually dangerous predator's presence near
366 or within a crime scene or in a prohibited area or the sexually dangerous predator's
367 departure from specific geographic locations; and

368 (3) An alarm that is automatically activated and broadcasts the sexually dangerous
369 predator's location if the global positioning satellite monitor is removed or tampered with
370 by anyone other than a law enforcement official designated to maintain and remove or
371 replace the equipment.

372 Such electronic monitoring system shall be worn by a sexually dangerous predator for the
373 remainder of his or her natural life. The sexually dangerous predator shall pay the cost of
374 such system to the Department of Corrections if the sexually dangerous predator is on
375 probation; to the State Board of Pardons and Paroles if the sexually dangerous predator is
376 on parole; and to the sheriff after the sexually dangerous predator completes his or her term
377 of probation and parole or if the sexually dangerous predator has moved to this state from
378 another state, territory, or country. The electronic monitoring system shall be placed upon
379 the sexually dangerous predator prior to his or her release from confinement. If the sexual
380 offender is not in custody, within 72 hours of the decision classifying the sexual offender
381 as a sexually dangerous predator by the court in accordance with subsection (b) of this

382 Code section or a final decision pursuant to subsection (c) of this Code section, whichever
 383 applies to the sexual offender's situation, or Code Section 17-16.4 the sexually dangerous
 384 predator shall report to the sheriff of the county of his or her residence for purposes of
 385 having the electronic monitoring system placed on the sexually dangerous predator.

386 ~~(f)~~ (e) In addition to the requirements of registration for all sexual offenders, a sexually
 387 dangerous predator shall report to the sheriff of the county where such predator resides six
 388 months following his or her birth month and update or verify his or her required
 389 registration information."

390 **SECTION 13.**

391 Said article is further amended in Code Section 42-1-15, relating to restriction on registered
 392 offenders residing, working, or loitering within certain distance of child care facilities,
 393 churches, schools, or areas where minors congregate, photographing of minors, penalty for
 394 violations, and civil causes of action, by adding a new paragraph to subsection (a) to read as
 395 follows:

396 "(4) 'Volunteer' means to engage in an activity in which one could be and ordinarily
 397 would be employed with or without compensation, including, but not limited to, being
 398 involved with or assisting with minors as a teacher or teaching assistant or with minors
 399 who are not supervised by someone other than a sexual offender; provided, however,
 400 such term shall not be construed to preclude participating in activities limited to persons
 401 who are 18 years of age or older or being a participant in worship services or engaging
 402 in religious activities that do not include supervising, teaching, directing or otherwise
 403 participating with minors who are not supervised by someone other than a sexual
 404 offender."

405 **SECTION 14.**

406 Said article is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

407 "42-1-16.

408 A superior court may issue an order releasing an individual from any residency
 409 requirements of this article if the individual or someone acting on behalf of the individual
 410 petitions the superior court of the jurisdiction in which such individual resides to be
 411 released from the residency requirements of this article, the court finds by a preponderance
 412 of the evidence that the individual does not pose a substantial risk of perpetrating any
 413 future dangerous sexual offense, and the individual:

414 (1) Resides in a hospice facility, skilled nursing home, residential care facility for the
 415 elderly, or nursing home;

416 (2) Is totally and permanently disabled as such term is defined in Code Section 49-4-80;
417 or
418 (3) Is otherwise seriously physically incapacitated due to illness or injury."

419 **SECTION 15.**

420 This Act shall become effective on the thirtieth day after the date on which this Act is
421 approved by the Governor or becomes law without such approval.

422 **SECTION 16.**

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