

House Bill 1158

By: Representative Beasley-Teague of the 65th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 45-16-27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 when inquest is to be held, special situations, coroner's fee, issuance of subpoenas for books,
3 records, or papers, cost of copying, and limited disclosure of photographs, so as to provide
4 that any person alleging elder abuse may demand a coroner's inquest within 30 days after a
5 death; to provide that a coroner may, but is not required to, hold an inquest; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 45-16-27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to when inquest
10 is to be held, special situations, coroner's fee, issuance of subpoenas for books, records, or
11 papers, cost of copying, and limited disclosure of photographs, is amended by revising
12 subparagraph (a)(1)(C) as follows:

13 "(C) When no demand for an inquest is made within 30 days after the filing of the
14 death certificate. However, if such demand is made by the party or parties affected by
15 the death, the coroner is authorized to hold the inquest; provided, further, that if such
16 demand is made by any person having knowledge of the death and alleging elder abuse,
17 the coroner is authorized to hold the inquest;"

18 **SECTION 2.**

19 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.