

House Bill 32

By: Representatives Mitchell of the 88th and Scott of the 76th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general provisions relative to law enforcement officers and agencies, so as to require law
3 enforcement officers to be equipped with body cameras; to provide for definitions; to provide
4 for rules and regulations; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
5 other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 1 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
9 provisions relative to law enforcement officers and agencies, is amended by adding a new
10 Code section to read as follows:

11 "35-1-20.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

13 (1) 'Body camera' means an electronic device worn on a person's body that records both
14 audio and video data.

15 (2) 'Law enforcement officer' means a person employed or appointed by this state or a
16 political subdivision thereof who is granted, by state law, the authority to enforce
17 criminal, traffic, or penal laws of this state and who possesses the power to effect arrests.

18 (b) All law enforcement officers in this state shall be equipped with body cameras. Such
19 body cameras shall be activated and deactivated in accordance with requirements
20 established by the board.

21 (c) Data recorded by body cameras on law enforcement officers shall be deemed to be
22 records of law enforcement for purposes of determining when public disclosure of records
23 is not required pursuant to paragraph (4) of subsection (a) of Code Section 50-18-72.

24 (d) The board, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall establish rules and
25 regulations for the implementation and enforcement of this Code section, including, but not

26 limited to, when body cameras shall be activated and deactivated, taking into consideration
27 privacy and other legal constraints."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.