

Senate Bill 564

By: Senators Mangham of the 55th, Wicks of the 34th, Kemp of the 38th and Jones II of the 22nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to investigating sexual assault, so as to extend the maintenance of physical evidence
3 collected from an alleged sexual assault; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 investigating sexual assault, is amended in Code Section 17-5-71, relating to preservation of
9 evidence, by revising subsection (b) as follows:

10 "(b) If the victim chooses not to report the alleged sexual assault to law enforcement at the
11 time of evidence collection, the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction shall maintain
12 any physical evidence collected as a result of such alleged sexual assault that contains
13 biological material, including, but not limited to, stains, fluids, or hair samples that relate
14 to the identity of the perpetrator of the alleged sexual assault, for not less than ~~12 months~~
15 two years from the date any such physical evidence is collected."

16

SECTION 2.

17 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.