

House Bill 216

By: Representatives Lim of the 98th, Neal of the 79th, Holcomb of the 81st, Taylor of the 173rd, and Clark of the 108th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 victim compensation, so as to provide for an award made from the Georgia Crime Victims
3 Emergency Fund to sexual assault survivors for medical treatment or counseling; to provide
4 for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to victim
9 compensation, is amended by revising Code Section 17-15-15, relating to responsibility for
10 cost of forensic medical examination, as follows:

11 "17-15-15.

12 (a) When a forensic medical examination is conducted, the cost of such forensic medical
13 examination shall be paid for by the fund in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00. The fund
14 shall be responsible for payment of such cost notwithstanding whether the person receiving
15 such forensic medical examination has health insurance or any other source of health care
16 coverage.

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17 (b) When medical treatment or counseling is provided to a sexual assault survivor and such
18 survivor, who is not the subscriber or primary policyholder of an insurance policy, opts out
19 of submitting a claim for such services under such policy, the cost of such medical
20 treatment or counseling shall be paid by the fund in an amount as provided in Code
21 Section 17-15-8; provided, however, that such award shall not be reduced or set off by the
22 amount of any payment that would have been made under such policy."

23 **SECTION 2.**

24 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
25 without such approval.

26 **SECTION 3.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.