

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Carter, Gordly, Kruse, Courtney, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Limits the conditions under which the Department of Justice (DOJ) can deny reimbursement to medical providers for Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations (SAFE). Specifies that payment for examinations cannot be denied in cases where victims have not reported the assault, are unsure about their desire to cooperate with a criminal investigation and prosecution, or for those when victim's identity is not readily available. Requires law enforcement agencies that receive evidence collection kits to preserve kits and any related evidence for six months.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of preserving evidence
- Capacity of local law enforcement agencies to store evidence

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Measure was developed by the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF). SATF was created in 1999 to assist victims of sexual assault and their families and to help law enforcement personnel. SATF consists of 48 members, with 12 agency representatives. DOJ asserts that these changes will enable victims of rape to consider their options relating to proceeding with an investigation and prosecution, while offering the possibility of preserving some of the important and fragile evidence.