

House Bill 1225

By: Representatives Gilliard of the 162nd, Boddie of the 62nd, and Bruce of the 61st

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 provide for
3 public access to information relating to detention of an individual by a private citizen; to
4 provide for a short title; 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 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Georgia Citizen's Arrest Repeal Education
9 Act."

10 **SECTION 2.**

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

- 14 "35-1-24.
15 (a) The board shall develop and post publicly on the department's publicly accessible
16 website guidelines and other relevant material to inform and educate the public about:
17 (1) The repeal of the power of citizen's arrest;
18 (2) The categories of private citizens with the power of detention pursuant to Code
19 Section 17-4-80;
20 (3) The suspected offenses and underlying elements which qualify for the exercise of the
21 power of detention by private citizens;
22 (4) A general overview of what constitutes reasonable grounds for a private citizen to
23 detain an individual under Code Section 17-4-80; and
24 (5) Limitations upon the power of detention as set forth by current case law.
25 (b) In developing the guidelines and other materials set forth in this Code section, the
26 board may consult with private entities with expertise and knowledge in this area."

27 **SECTION 3.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.