

House Bill 637

By: Representatives Frye of the 118th, Neal of the 74th, McLaurin of the 51st, Douglas of the 78th, and Howard of the 124th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 12 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 control of hazardous conditions, preventable diseases, and metabolic disorders, so as to
3 authorize persons to wear masks, hoods, or other devices to prevent the spread of a
4 contagious or infectious disease during and for 12 months following the conclusion of a
5 public health emergency; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
6 other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 12 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to control of
10 hazardous conditions, preventable diseases, and metabolic disorders, is amended by adding
11 a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "31-12-15.

13 During and for 12 months following the conclusion of a public health state of emergency
14 declared by the Governor to prevent the spread of a contagious or infectious disease, no
15 person shall be subject to prosecution under Code Section 16-11-38 for wearing a mask,
16 hood, or device by which any portion of the face is so hidden, concealed, or covered as to

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17 conceal his or her identity if such person is wearing such mask, hood, or device for the
18 purpose of preventing the spread of such contagious or infectious disease."

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.