

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 56th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 1873
Version:	PSC1
Request Number:	6826
Author:	Rep. Munson
Date:	2/28/2017
Impact:	Possible cost to the state for victim's medical expenses

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute to HB 1873 creates the Sexual Assault Victims' Right to Information Act. The measure provides that a sexual assault victim retains all rights granted by the Act regardless of whether the victim agrees to participate in the criminal justice system or whether the victim agrees to receive a medical evidentiary examination. The bill provides that a sexual assault victim has a right to consult with a sexual assault advocate during any examination or interview. The bill provides that any medical expenses related to the medical evidentiary examination or treatment of the victim which is not covered by the Crime Victims Compensation Board are not to be charged directly to the victim. The victim is to be notified of their rights prior to a medical evidentiary or physical examination. The victim is to be notified of their right to consult a sexual assault advocate prior to being interviewed by law enforcement or the district attorney. The measure provides that a sexual assault victim has the right to request and receive the results and status of the analysis of the sexual assault forensic evidence of the victim. The measure a law enforcement officer or medical provider is to provide the victim with a document to be developed by the Office of the Attorney General that explains the rights of sexual assault victims.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

The PCS on HB 1873 stipulates that no costs incurred by a qualified health care professional, hospital, or other emergency medical facility for the medical evidentiary examination portion shall be charged directly to the victim. The bill does not specify who will cover these costs.

Prepared By: Kristina King

Other Considerations

None.