## CRIME VICTIMS ACT - PETITIONS TO DENY PAROLE UPON EXPIRATION OF MINIMUM SENTENCE

Act of Jun. 18, 2013, P.L. 45, No. 14

C1. 44

Session of 2013 No. 2013-14

HB 492

## AN ACT

Amending the act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), entitled "An act providing for victims' rights; imposing penalties; establishing remedies; establishing the Office of Victim Advocate, the Bureau of Victims' Services, the Victims' Services Advisory Committee, the State Offender Supervision Fund and other funds; and making repeals," further providing for petitions to deny parole upon expiration of minimum sentence.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 502(b) of the act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), known as the Crime Victims Act, amended October 2, 2002 (P.L.839, No.121), is amended to read: Section 502. Petitions to deny parole upon expiration of minimum sentence.

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(b) Appearance. -- The victim or the victim's representative shall be permitted to appear in person and provide testimony before the [board or hearing examiner] panel or the majority of those board members charged with making the parole release decision or, in the alternative, the victim's or victim's representative's testimony may be presented by [conference call] electronic means as provided by the board. The testimony of a victim [before the board] or victim's representative shall be confidential. Records maintained by the department and the board pertaining to victims shall be kept separate[. Current] from other records, and these victim records, including current address, telephone number and any other personal information of the victim and family members, shall be deemed confidential.

Section 2. This act shall take effect September 1, 2013, or immediately, whichever is later.

APPROVED--The 18th day of June, A.D. 2013.

TOM CORBETT