THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 838

Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, A. WILLIAMS, HAYWOOD, KANE, DILLON, SANTARSIERO, STEFANO, ROTHMAN, COSTA, BREWSTER, STREET AND CAPPELLETTI, JUNE 21, 2023

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, DECEMBER 12, 2023

AN ACT

- Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further
 providing for order of probation, for conditions of probation
 and for modification or revocation of order of probation and
 providing for probation review conference.

 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

 hereby enacts as follows:

 Section 1. Section 9754(b) of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania

 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:
- 10 § 9754. Order of probation.
- 11 * * *
- 12 (b) Conditions generally.--The court shall attach reasonable
- 13 conditions authorized by section 9763 (relating to conditions of
- 14 probation) [as it deems necessary to ensure or assist the
- 15 defendant in leading a law-abiding life].
- 16 * * *
- 17 Section 2. Section 9763(b)(1), (2) and (11) of Title 42 are

- 1 amended to read:
- 2 § 9763. Conditions of probation.
- 3 * * *
- 4 (b) Conditions generally. -- [The court may attach any of the
- 5 following conditions upon the defendant as it deems necessary:]
- 6 Conditions shall be assessed and ordered based on individualized
- 7 <u>circumstances</u>. Following an individualized assessment of the
- 8 <u>defendant, including the defendant's history and the underlying</u>
- 9 crime or crimes committed, the court shall attach only those
- 10 conditions that the court deems necessary and the least
- 11 <u>restrictive means available to promote the defendant's</u>
- 12 rehabilitation and protection of the public, including any of
- 13 the following:
- 14 (1) To meet family responsibilities[.], including
- 15 <u>consideration of child-care responsibilities and limitations</u>,
- 16 <u>other than the child-care responsibilities and limitations</u>
- contained in 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 43 (relating to support matters
- 18 generally) which shall be governed exclusively by the
- 19 provisions of that chapter.
- 20 (2) To be devoted to a specific occupation, employment
- or education, study or vocational training initiative.
- 22 * * *
- 23 (11) To [be subject to intensive supervision while
- remaining within the jurisdiction of the court and to] notify
- 25 the court or designated person of any change in address or
- employment[.] within 72 hours, unless the defendant provides <--
- 27 <u>sufficient proof of extenuating circumstances to explain the</u>

<--

- 28 <u>delay. WITHIN 15 DAYS, UNLESS THE DEFENDANT PROVIDES</u>
- 29 SUFFICIENT PROOF OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES TO EXPLAIN THE
- 30 DELAY.

- 1 * * *
- 2 Section 3. Section 9771(a), (b) and (c) of Title 42 are
- 3 amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to
- 4 read:
- 5 § 9771. Modification or revocation of order of probation.
- 6 (a) General rule. -- The court has inherent power to at any
- 7 time terminate continued supervision, lessen the conditions upon
- 8 which an order of probation has been imposed or increase the
- 9 conditions under which an order of probation has been imposed
- 10 upon a finding by clear and convincing evidence that a person
- 11 presents an identifiable threat to public safety.
- 12 (b) Revocation. -- The court may increase the conditions,
- 13 impose a brief sanction under section 9771.1 (relating to court-
- 14 imposed sanctions for violating probation) or revoke an order of
- 15 probation upon proof of the violation of specified conditions of
- 16 the probation. [Upon] Subject to the limitations of subsections
- 17 (b.1) and (c), upon revocation the sentencing alternatives
- 18 available to the court shall be the same as were available at
- 19 the time of initial sentencing, due consideration being given to
- 20 the time spent serving the order of probation. The attorney for
- 21 the Commonwealth may file notice at any time prior to
- 22 resentencing of the Commonwealth's intention to proceed under an
- 23 applicable provision of law requiring a mandatory minimum
- 24 sentence.
- 25 (b.1) Nonpayment of fines or costs. -- Notwithstanding
- 26 subsection (b), the court may not extend the period of
- 27 probation, may not impose a brief sanction under section 9771.1
- 28 <u>and may not revoke an order of probation solely due to</u>
- 29 nonpayment of fines or costs unless the court finds, with
- 30 respect to the payment of fines, the defendant is financially

	able to pay the lines and has willfully refused to do so.
2	(c) Limitation on sentence of total confinement[The court
3	shall not impose a sentence of total confinement upon revocation
4	unless it finds that:
5	(1) the defendant has been convicted of another crime;
6	or
7	(2) the conduct of the defendant indicates that it is
8	likely that he will commit another crime if he is not
9	imprisoned; or
10	(3) such a sentence is essential to vindicate the
11	authority of the court.] There is a presumption against total
12	confinement for technical violations of probation. The
13	<pre>following shall apply:</pre>
14	(1) The court may impose a sentence of total confinement
15	<pre>upon revocation only if:</pre>
16	(i) the defendant has been convicted of another
17	<pre>crime;</pre>
18	(ii) the court finds by clear and convincing
19	evidence that the defendant committed a technical
20	violation that involves an identifiable threat to public
21	safety and the defendant cannot be safely diverted from
22	total confinement through less restrictive means; or
23	(iii) the court finds by a preponderance of the
24	evidence that the defendant committed a technical
25	violation and any of the following apply:
26	(A) The technical violation was sexual in
27	<pre>nature.</pre>
28	(B) The technical violation involved assaultive
29	behavior or included a credible threat to cause
30	bodily injury to another, including acts committed

1	<u>against a family or household member.</u>
2	(C) The technical violation involved possession
3	or control of a firearm or dangerous weapon.
4	(D) The technical violation involved the
5	manufacture, sale, delivery or possession with the
6	intent to manufacture, sell or deliver, a controlled
7	substance or other drug regulated under the act of
8	April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The
9	Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
10	(E) The defendant absconded and cannot be safely
11	diverted from total confinement through less
12	restrictive means.
13	(F) The technical violation involved an
14	intentional and unexcused failure to adhere to
15	recommended programming or conditions on three or
16	more separate occasions and the defendant cannot be
17	safely diverted from total confinement through less
18	restrictive means. For purposes of this clause,
19	multiple technical violations stemming from the same
20	episode of events shall not constitute separate
21	technical violations.
22	(2) If a court imposes a sentence of total confinement
23	following a revocation, the basis of which is for one or more
24	technical violations under paragraph (1)(ii) or (iii), the
25	COURT SHALL CONSIDER THE EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE DEFENDANT. <
26	THE defendant shall be sentenced as follows:
27	(i) For a first technical violation, a maximum
28	period of 14 days.
29	(ii) For a second technical violation, a maximum
30	period of 30 days.

_	(III) For a third or subsequent technical violation,
2	the court may impose any sentencing alternatives
3	available at the time of initial sentencing.
4	(iv) The court shall consider allowing the term of
5	incarceration to be served on weekends or other nonwork
6	days for employed probationers who have committed a first
7	or second technical violation.
8	(V) (IV) The time limitations contained in this
9	paragraph shall not apply to the extent that a reasonable
10	term of additional total confinement, not to exceed 30
11	days, is necessary to allow a defendant to either be
12	evaluated for or to participate in:
13	(A) a court-ordered drug, alcohol or mental
14	health treatment program; or
15	(B) a problem-solving court provided for in
16	section 916 (relating to problem-solving courts).
17	(3) Nothing in this section shall prevent the adoption
18	of a program under section 9771.1.
19	* * *
20	Section 4. Title 42 is amended by adding a section to read:
21	§ 9774.1. Probation review conference.
22	(a) General rule Except as otherwise provided in this
23	section, the court shall hold a probation review conference no
24	later than 60 days from the date the defendant is eligible. If a
25	defendant's probation review conference has not commenced within
26	the time frames specified in this subsection, the defendant's
27	attorney, or the defendant if unrepresented, may file a motion
28	demanding a probation review conference within five business
29	days.
30	(b) Eligibility for review conference Except as otherwise

1	provided in this section, a defendant shall be eligible for an
2	initial probation review conference as follows:
3	(1) If the offense for which a sentence of probation was
4	imposed was a misdemeanor, the defendant shall be eligible
5	for an initial probation review conference after completing
6	two years of probation or 50% of the probation sentence,
7	whichever is sooner.
8	(2) If the offense for which a sentence of probation was
9	imposed was a felony, a defendant shall be eligible for an
10	initial probation review conference after completing four
11	years of probation or 50% of the probation sentence,
12	whichever is sooner.
13	(3) If the sentence or sentences imposed arose out of
14	convictions for multiple offenses which the court ordered to
15	<pre>be served consecutively and:</pre>
16	(i) The offenses for which the sentence or sentences
17	were imposed are misdemeanors based on the same conduct
18	or arising from the same criminal episode, the defendant
19	shall be eligible for a probation review conference after
20	completing two years of probation or 50% of the aggregate
21	probation sentence, whichever is sooner.
22	(ii) The offenses for which the sentence or
23	sentences were imposed included a felony and are based on
24	the same conduct or arise from the same criminal episode,
25	the defendant shall be eligible for a probation review
26	conference after completing four years of probation or
27	50% of the aggregate probation sentence, whichever is
28	sooner.
29	(iii) The offenses for which the sentence or

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sentences were imposed are based on separate conduct and

1	arose from separate criminal episodes, the defendant
2	shall be eligible for a probation review conference after
3	completing four years of probation or 50% of the
4	aggregate probation sentence, whichever is sooner.
5	(4) A defendant sentenced to a period of probation
6	consecutive to a period of incarceration in a State
7	correctional institution shall be eligible for an initial
8	probation review conference 12 months prior to the date that
9	the defendant would otherwise be eligible for a probation
10	review conference under this subsection if the defendant
11	completed the final 12 months of State parole supervision
12	without violating the terms and conditions of the defendant's
13	parole. This paragraph shall not apply to a defendant who
14	serves fewer than 12 months on State parole supervision.
15	(5) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this
16	section, a defendant shall not be eligible to receive an
17	initial probation review conference less than 12 months from
18	the original date of sentencing.
19	(c) Accelerated early review conference
20	(1) Subject to the limitations in subsection (b)(5), a
21	defendant serving probation that was imposed for a
22	misdemeanor or felony offense shall be eligible for an
23	initial probation review conference six months prior to the
24	date that the defendant would otherwise be eligible under
25	subsection (b) if the defendant successfully satisfies any of
26	the following conditions while serving the term of probation:
27	(i) Earns a high school diploma or certificate of
28	high school equivalency.
29	(ii) Earns an associate degree from an accredited
30	university, college, seminary college, community college

Τ	<u>or two-year college.</u>
2	(iii) Earns a bachelor's degree from an accredited
3	university, college or seminary college.
4	(iv) Earns a master's or other graduate degree from
5	an accredited university, college or seminary college.
6	(v) Obtains a vocational or occupational license,
7	certificate, registration or permit.
8	(vi) Completes a certified vocational, certified
9	technical or certified career education or training
10	program.
11	(vii) Any other condition approved by the court at
12	the time of sentencing that substantially assists the
13	defendant in leading a law-abiding life or furthers the
L 4	rehabilitative needs of the defendant.
L5	(2) Subject to the limitations in subsection (b)(5), a
L 6	defendant serving probation that was imposed for a felony
L7	offense shall be eligible for an initial probation review
L 8	conference up to a total of six months prior to the date that
L 9	the defendant would otherwise be eligible under paragraph (1)
20	if the defendant satisfies an additional condition specified
21	in paragraph (1) while serving the term of probation.
22	(3) To qualify a defendant for an accelerated initial
23	probation review conference under paragraphs (1) and (2), any
24	condition under paragraph (1)(v), (vi) or (vii) must be
25	approved by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and
26	Delinquency or an advisory committee of that commission
27	designated to provide approval PROBATION OFFICER OFFICE <
28	RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THE DEFENDANT., IN
29	ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARDS DEVELOPED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA
3.0	COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINOHENCY THE PENNSYLVANIA

Τ	COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCI SHALL DEVELOF STANDARDS
2	PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH.
3	(d) Probation status report No later than 30 days prior to
4	the date the defendant is otherwise entitled to a probation
5	review conference under subsection (b) or (c), the probation
6	office responsible for the supervision of the defendant shall
7	complete and submit a probation status report to the defendant,
8	THE DEFENDANT'S LAST COUNSEL OF RECORD, the court, AND, the
9	Commonwealth and any victim registered with either the <
10	Pennsylvania Office of Victim Advocate or a county victim
11	witness program AND ANY VICTIM REGISTERED WITH EITHER THE
12	PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF VICTIM ADVOCATE OR A COUNTY VICTIM
13	WITNESS PROGRAM. The probation status report shall contain the
14	<pre>following:</pre>
15	(1) The date the probation office believes the defendant
16	is eligible for a probation review conference.
17	(2) A statement as to whether:
18	(i) Any of the factors or violations specified in
19	subsection (g) (1) (ii) and (iii) have occurred.
20	(ii) The defendant has committed any other technical
21	violation within the six months prior to the probation
22	status report.
23	(iii) The defendant was convicted of a misdemeanor
24	or felony while either incarcerated or serving probation.
25	(iv) The defendant has completed all treatment of OR <
26	any other program required as a condition of probation.
27	(v) The defendant has paid all restitution owed to
28	the victim.
29	(3) A description of the defendant's progress on
30	probation and a recommendation that:

1	<u>(i) the defendant's probation be terminated at or</u>
2	before the date the probation office believes the
3	defendant is eligible for a probation review conference;
4	(ii) the defendant should continue on probation as
5	previously ordered; or
6	(iii) the defendant should continue on probation
7	under different, reduced or increased terms and
8	conditions.
9	(e) Objections to status report A person entitled to the
10	probation status report under subsection (d) THE COMMONWEALTH <
11	AND THE DEFENDANT shall have 30 days from the date of the status
12	report to object or otherwise respond to the probation status
13	report. A VICTIM SHALL HAVE 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE STATUS <
14	REPORT TO PROVIDE INPUT OR OTHERWISE RESPOND TO THE PROBATION
15	STATUS REPORT. The following shall apply:
16	(1) If a party objects to all or any component of the
17	probation status report, the court shall hold a probation
18	review conference as otherwise provided by this subsection
19	and shall notify the defendant, the Commonwealth and any
20	victim registered with either the Pennsylvania Office of
21	Victim Advocate or a county victim witness program of the
22	date of the probation review conference.
23	(2) If none of the parties entitled to the probation
24	status report object to the recommendation contained in the
25	report within 30 days, upon evidence satisfactory to the
26	court that the probation status report was sent to each party
27	entitled to receive the probation status report, the
28	probation review conference shall be deemed waived. The court
29	shall enter an order memorializing the recommendation
30	contained in the probation status report and so notify the

1	defendant, the Commonwealth and any victim registered with
2	either the Pennsylvania Office of Victim Advocate or a county
3	victim witness program. The court may enter the order even if
4	the defendant's probation, sentence or plea of guilty was the
5	result of an agreement between the Commonwealth and the
6	<u>defendant.</u>
7	(f) Termination of probation
8	(1) Except as provided in subsection (g), immediately
9	following the probation review conference, the court shall
10	terminate probation unless the court finds:
11	(i) by clear and convincing evidence that the
12	conduct of the defendant while on probation created an
13	identifiable threat to public safety, including
14	consideration of whether the defendant is the subject of
15	an active protection from abuse order under 23 Pa.C.S.
16	Ch. 61 (relating to protection from abuse) or an active
17	protection from intimidation order under 18 Pa.C.S. Ch.
18	49 Subch. B. (relating to victim and witness
19	<pre>intimidation);</pre>
20	(ii) by a preponderance of the evidence that the
21	defendant has not successfully completed all treatment or
22	other programs required as a condition of probation, and
23	termination of probation would either prevent the
24	defendant from continuing in the court-mandated treatment
25	or programming that the court determines is still
26	necessary to aid in the defendant's rehabilitation or
27	would create a substantial likelihood that the defendant
28	would discontinue the treatment or programs; or
29	(iii) by a preponderance of the evidence that the
2 ()	defendant has failed to have the total restitution ared by

Τ	the delendant.
2	(2) The court may terminate probation under paragraph
3	(1) even if the defendant's probation, sentence or plea of
4	guilty was the result of an agreement between the
5	Commonwealth and the defendant.
6	(3) If the court does not terminate probation at a
7	probation review conference, the defendant shall receive
8	written notice of the court's order detailing the court's
9	findings. The defendant shall be eligible for a subsequent
10	probation review conference no later than 12 months after the
11	date of the most recent probation review conference.
12	(g) Prohibitions on early termination
13	(1) A defendant shall not have the defendant's probation
14	terminated under this section if:
15	(i) the defendant was convicted of a misdemeanor of
16	the first degree, misdemeanor of the second degree or
17	felony offense of any degree committed while either
18	incarcerated or serving probation;
19	(ii) the court finds by clear and convincing
20	evidence that the defendant committed a technical
21	violation within the six months immediately preceding the
22	defendant's probation review conference that involved an
23	identifiable threat to public safety; or
24	(iii) a court determines at the probation review
25	conference by a preponderance of the evidence that the
26	defendant committed one of the following technical
27	violations within the six months immediately preceding
28	the defendant's probation review conference:
29	(A) A technical violation that was sexual in
30	nature.

1	(B) A technical violation that involved
2	assaultive behavior or included a credible threat to
3	cause bodily injury to another, including acts
4	committed against a family or household member.
5	(C) A technical violation that involved
6	possession or control of a firearm or dangerous
7	weapon.
8	(D) The technical violation involved the
9	manufacture, sale, delivery or possession with the
10	intent to manufacture, sell or deliver, a controlled
11	substance or other drug regulated under the act of
12	April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The
13	Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
14	(E) The defendant absconded.
15	(F) A technical violation that involved an
10	
16	intentional and unexcused failure to adhere to
	intentional and unexcused failure to adhere to recommended programming or conditions on three or
16	
16 17	recommended programming or conditions on three or
16 17 18	recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For purposes of this clause,
16 17 18 19	recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For purposes of this clause, multiple technical violations stemming from the same
16 17 18 19 20	recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For purposes of this clause, multiple technical violations stemming from the same episode of events shall not constitute separate
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16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For purposes of this clause, multiple technical violations stemming from the same episode of events shall not constitute separate technical violations. (2) If the defendant is ineligible for termination of probation as a result of a technical violation enumerated in paragraph (1) (ii) or (iii) occurring within the six months
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For purposes of this clause, multiple technical violations stemming from the same episode of events shall not constitute separate technical violations. (2) If the defendant is ineligible for termination of probation as a result of a technical violation enumerated in paragraph (1)(ii) or (iii) occurring within the six months immediately preceding the probation review conference and if
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For purposes of this clause, multiple technical violations stemming from the same episode of events shall not constitute separate technical violations. (2) If the defendant is ineligible for termination of probation as a result of a technical violation enumerated in paragraph (1)(ii) or (iii) occurring within the six months immediately preceding the probation review conference and if all other conditions are satisfied, a probation review
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For purposes of this clause, multiple technical violations stemming from the same episode of events shall not constitute separate technical violations. (2) If the defendant is ineligible for termination of probation as a result of a technical violation enumerated in paragraph (1)(ii) or (iii) occurring within the six months immediately preceding the probation review conference and if all other conditions are satisfied, a probation review conference shall be held six months after the date that the

1	probation review conference solely because of the defendant's
2	failure to pay restitution in full, the court shall order
3	that the defendant be placed on administrative probation for
4	the remaining balance of the defendant's probation sentence A <-
5	PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED THE DEFENDANT'S REMAINING BALANCE AT THE
6	TIME ADMINISTRATIVE PROBATION IS ASSIGNED if: THE REMAINING <-
7	BALANCE OF THE DEFENDANT'S PROBATION SENTENCE IF:
8	(i) the defendant has paid at least 50% of the
9	restitution owed; or
10	(ii) the court determines, considering the
11	defendant's resources, income and family, legal or other
12	obligations, that the defendant has made a good faith
13	effort to pay.
14	(2) The provisions of section 9771(c) (relating to
15	modification or revocation of order of probation) shall apply
16	to individuals placed on administrative probation pursuant to
17	this subsection.
18	(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
19	interfere with a victim's right to pursue private remedies in
20	accordance with 18 Pa.C.S. § 1106(g) (relating to restitution
21	for injuries to person or property).
22	(i) Applicability This section shall not apply and the
23	defendant shall not be entitled to a probation review conference
24	or to early termination of probation under this section if the
25	offense for which the defendant was sentenced to probation was
26	one of the following:
27	(1) an offense under 18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 25 (relating to
28	<pre>criminal homicide);</pre>
29	(2) a crime of violence;
30	(3) an offense listed under Subchapter H (relating to

	registration of sexual offenders, of i (refacing to continued
2	registration of sexual offenders) of Chapter 97;
3	(4) an offense under 18 Pa.C.S. § 2701 (relating to
4	simple assault) when committed against a family or household
5	<pre>member; or</pre>
6	(5) an offense under 18 Pa.C.S. § 2709.1 (relating to
7	stalking).
8	(j) Other remedies preserved Nothing in this section shall
9	be construed to:
10	(1) prevent a defendant from petitioning a court for
11	early termination of probation or modification of the terms
12	and conditions of probation as otherwise permitted by law;
13	(2) prohibit the court, in its discretion, from
14	eliminating or decreasing the term of probation under section
15	9771(d); or
16	(3) diminish the court's power to:
17	(i) otherwise, at any time, terminate continued
18	supervision or lessen the conditions upon which an order
19	of probation has been imposed;
20	(ii) create or administer a process or program which
21	seeks to terminate continued supervision or lessen the
22	conditions upon which an order of probation has been
23	<pre>imposed; or</pre>
24	(iii) seek information from the Commonwealth,
25	defendant, victim, county probation officer or any other
26	individual or entity to assist in these processes or
27	programs.
28	(k) Definitions As used in this section, the following
29	words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
30	subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

- 1 <u>"Administrative probation." A term of imposed probation</u>
- 2 that:
- 3 (1) Requires a defendant to make supervision contact at
- 4 <u>least one time and no more than four times per year.</u>
- 5 (2) Requires a defendant to notify the court or the
- 6 <u>designated person of any change in address or employment</u>
- 7 within a reasonable period of time.
- 8 (3) Requires a defendant to pay the remaining
- 9 <u>restitution</u>, as ordered by the court on a schedule or payment
- 10 plan that the defendant can afford to pay.
- 11 (4) Does not require the defendant to pay monthly
- 12 <u>probation administration fees or any additional costs for the</u>
- continuation of supervision on administrative probation.
- 14 (5) Does not impose any other condition of probation.
- 15 "Crime of violence." As defined in section 9714(g) (relating
- 16 to sentences for second and subsequent offenses).
- 17 "Dangerous weapon." Any of the following:
- 18 (1) A "weapon" as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 907 (relating
- 19 to possessing instruments of crime); or
- 20 (2) An "offensive weapon" as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 908
- 21 (relating to prohibited offensive weapons).
- 22 <u>"Family or household members." As defined in 23 Pa.C.S. §</u>
- 23 <u>6102(a) (relating to definitions).</u>
- "Firearm." As defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 908.
- 25 "Technical violation." A violation of the specific terms and
- 26 conditions of a defendant's probation, other than by the
- 27 commission of a new crime of which the defendant is convicted or
- 28 found guilty by a judge or jury or to which the defendant pleads
- 29 guilty or nolo contendere in a court of record.
- 30 Section 5. This act shall apply as follows:

- 1 (1) This act shall apply to individuals sentenced or
 2 resentenced on or after the effective date of this section.
 3 (2) Except for the addition of 42 Pa.C.S. § 9774.1. the
- 3 (2) Except for the addition of 42 Pa.C.S. § 9774.1, this 4 act shall apply to individuals sentenced or resentenced prior 5 to the effective date of this section.
- Section 6. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent a defendant from petitioning a court for early termination of probation or modification of the terms and conditions of probation as otherwise permitted by law.
- 10 Section 7. The following apply:

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- (1) The following apply to post-sentencing reviews:
- (i) Subject to paragraph (2), the courts shall ensure that the probation of all individuals sentenced or resentenced prior to the effective date of this section are reviewed to determine whether the individuals should be considered for early termination of probation or modification of the terms and conditions of probation. The review shall occur at the later of one year after the effective date of this section or:
 - (A) For a probation sentence on a misdemeanor conviction, the date the defendant has completed two years of probation.
 - (B) For a felony conviction, the date the defendant has completed four years of probation.
 - (C) For a probation sentence based on a conviction involving multiple offenses arising out of the same criminal episode:
- (I) the date the defendant has completed two years of probation if all the offenses resulting in the sentence were misdemeanors; or

1 (II) the date the defendant has completed 2 four years of probation if one of the offenses 3 resulting in the sentence included a felony. For each case under review, the defendant and 4 the Commonwealth shall have the opportunity, in advance 5 6 of a decision, to provide written comments to the court. 7 Courts may by local rule adopt such procedures as they 8 deem appropriate to accomplish the reviews. (i) This section shall not apply if: 9 (2) 10 (A) The defendant committed one of the following technical violations within the six months 11 12 immediately preceding the defendant's probation review conference: 13 14 (i) A technical violation that was sexual in 15 nature. (ii) A technical violation that involved 16 17 assaultive behavior or included a credible threat 18 to cause bodily injury to another, including 19 incidents involving domestic violence. 20 (iii) A technical violation that involved 21 possession or control of a firearm or dangerous 22 weapon. 23 The technical violation involved the 24 manufacture, sale, delivery or possession with 25 the intent to manufacture, sell or deliver, a 26 controlled substance or other drug regulated 27 under the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), 28 known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device 29 and Cosmetic Act. (v) The defendant absconded. 30

1 (vi) A technical violation which involved an 2 intentional and unexcused failure to adhere to 3 recommended programming or conditions on three or more separate occasions. For the purposes of this 4 5 clause, multiple technical violations stemming 6 from the same episode of events shall not 7 constitute separate technical violations. 8 (vii) A technical violation that involved an identifiable threat to public safety. 9 10 The defendant was convicted of a misdemeanor of 11 the first degree, misdemeanor of the second degree or 12 felony offense committed while either incarcerated or 13 serving probation. 14 The defendant was convicted of an offense 15 listed under 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 97 Subch. H (relating to 16 registration of sexual offenders) or I (relating to continued registration of sexual offenders). 17 The defendant was convicted of a crime of 18 (iv)19 violence. 20 The defendant was convicted of an offense under 21 18 Pa.C.S. § 2701 (relating to simple assault) or 2709.1 22 (relating to stalking) against any of the defendant's 23 family or household members. 24 Section 8. When a court, either as a result of a petition or 25 as a result of its review under section 7 of this act, seeks to 2.6 determine whether an individual sentenced or resentenced prior to the effective date of this section should be considered for 27 28 early termination of probation or modification of the terms and 29 conditions of probation, the court shall ensure that due

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consideration is given to whether the individual has

- 1 successfully satisfied the conditions contained in 42 Pa.C.S. §
- 2 9774.1(c)(1) or (2).
- 3 Section 9. This act shall take effect in 180 days.