THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2464 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY HACKETT, MURT, MILLARD, TURZAI, KINSEY, KILLION, WATSON, BARRAR, YOUNGBLOOD, D. COSTA, R. BROWN, ROCK, BENNINGHOFF, VEREB AND C. HARRIS, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

AN ACT

Amending the act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), 1 entitled "An act providing for victims' rights; imposing 2 penalties; establishing remedies; establishing the Office of 3 Victim Advocate, the Bureau of Victims' Services, the Victims' Services Advisory Committee, the State Offender Supervision Fund and other funds; and making repeals," 5 6 further providing for victims' rights. 8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: Section 1. Section 201(3) and (12) of the act of November 10 11 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), known as the Crime Victims Act, 12 amended June 28, 2002 (P.L.496, No.85), are amended and the 13 section is amended by adding a paragraph to read: 14 Section 201. Rights. 15 Victims of crime have the following rights: * * * 16 17 (2.1) To not be excluded from any criminal or juvenile 18 proceeding in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. § 6336 (relating to conduct of hearings), unless the court, after receiving clear 19 and convincing evidence, determines that testimony by the 20

- 1 <u>victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other</u>
- 2 testimony at the proceeding. Before making a determination,
- 3 the court shall make every effort to permit the fullest
- 4 <u>attendance possible by the victim and shall consider</u>
- 5 <u>reasonable alternatives to the exclusion of the victim. The</u>
- 6 reason for any exclusion shall be clearly stated on the
- 7 <u>record.</u>
- 8 (3) To be accompanied at all criminal and all juvenile
- 9 proceedings in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. § 6336 [(relating
- 10 to conduct of hearings)] by a family member, a victim
- 11 advocate or other person providing assistance or support.
- 12 * * *
- 13 (12) To be notified of the details of the final
- disposition of the case of a juvenile consistent with 42
- Pa.C.S. § 6336(f) [(relating to conduct of hearings)].
- 16 * * *
- 17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.