

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 508 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, TOMLINSON, TEPLITZ, WARD, YUDICHAK, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, FOLMER, WASHINGTON, BREWSTER, BLAKE, ERICKSON, WAUGH, BROWNE, SOLOBAY, COSTA, McILHINNEY, TARTAGLIONE, FARNESE AND BOSCOLA, FEBRUARY 14, 2013

SENATOR GREENLEAF, JUDICIARY, AS AMENDED, MARCH 19, 2013

AN ACT

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

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

11 Section 1. Section 502(b) of the act of November 24, 1998
12 (P.L.882, No.111), known as the Crime Victims Act, amended
13 October 2, 2002 (P.L.839, No.121), is amended to read:

14 Section 502. Petitions to deny parole upon expiration of
15 minimum sentence.

16 \* \* \*

17 (b) Appearance.--The victim or the victim's representative
18 shall be permitted to appear in person and provide testimony
19 before the [board or hearing examiner] ~~person or body~~ PANEL OR <--
20 THE MAJORITY OF THOSE BOARD MEMBERS CHARGED WITH making the

1 parole release decision or, in the alternative, the VICTIM'S OR <--  
2 THE victim's REPRESENTATIVE'S testimony may be presented by <--  
3 [conference call] ~~to the person or body~~ ELECTRONIC MEANS AS <--  
4 PROVIDED BY THE BOARD. The testimony of a victim [before the  
5 board] OR A VICTIM'S REPRESENTATIVE shall be confidential. <--  
6 Records maintained by the department and the board pertaining to  
7 victims shall be kept separate[. Current] from other records and  
8 these victim records, including current address, telephone  
9 number and any other personal information of the victim and  
10 family members, shall be deemed confidential.

11 \* \* \*

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect ~~immediately~~ SEPTEMBER <--  
13 1, 2013, OR IMMEDIATELY, WHICHEVER IS LATER.