

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE BILL

No. 189 Session of  
2017

---

INTRODUCED BY MCGARRIGLE, SABATINA, BREWSTER, HUGHES AND  
RAFFERTY, JANUARY 26, 2017

---

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JANUARY 26, 2017

---

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," in  
7 crime victims, further providing for rights.

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

10 Section 1. Section 201(3) and (12) of the act of November  
11 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), known as the Crime Victims Act, are  
12 amended and the section is amended by adding a paragraph to  
13 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  
19 conduct of hearings), unless the court, based on the record  
20 before it, determines that testimony by the victim would be

1 materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at the  
2 proceeding. Before making a determination, the court shall  
3 make every effort to permit the fullest attendance possible  
4 by the victim and shall consider reasonable alternatives to  
5 the exclusion of the victim. The reason for any exclusion  
6 shall be clearly stated on the record.

7 (3) To be accompanied at all criminal and all juvenile  
8 proceedings in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. § 6336 [(relating  
9 to conduct of hearings)] by a family member, a victim  
10 advocate or other person providing assistance or support.

11 \* \* \*

12 (12) To be notified of the details of the final  
13 disposition of the case of a juvenile consistent with 42  
14 Pa.C.S. § 6336(f) [(relating to conduct of hearings)].

15 \* \* \*

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.