

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1699 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, ROTHMAN, HILL-EVANS, CIRESI, THOMAS, SHUSTERMAN, STEPHENS, MIZGORSKI, GUENST, PASHINSKI, BROOKS, LEWIS DELROSSO, TOOHL, BENHAM, ROZZI, BRIGGS, SOLOMON AND GILLEN, JUNE 24, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 24, 2021

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, providing for responsibilities of institutions
8 of higher education.

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

11 Section 1. The act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111),
12 known as the Crime Victims Act, is amended by adding a section
13 to read:

14 Section 217. Responsibilities of institutions of higher
15 education.

16 (a) General rule.--Consistent with the Higher Education Act
17 of 1965 (Public Law 89-329, 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(8)),
18 institutions of higher education shall provide a concise,
19 written notification of rights, accommodations and protective
20 measures to students and employees, including victims of dating

1 violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking,
2 regardless of where such incidences occurred, including
3 information regarding:

4 (1) Existing counseling, mental health, victim advocacy,
5 legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student
6 financial aid and other services available for victims, both
7 within the institution and in the community.

8 (2) Available options and assistance regarding how to
9 request changes to academic, living, transportation and
10 working situations or protective measures.

11 (b) Accommodations and protective measures.--The institution
12 shall make such accommodations or provide such protective
13 measures if the victim requests them and if they are available,
14 regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to
15 campus police or local law enforcement, and regardless of where
16 such incidences occurred.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.