THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL No. 2464 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY DELOZIER, KAUFFMAN, BOBACK, GUENST, JAMES, MILLARD, PICKETT AND STAATS, MARCH 29, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 29, 2022

AN ACT

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Amending the act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), entitled "An act providing for victims' rights; imposing penalties; establishing remedies; establishing the Office of Victim Advocate, the Bureau of Victims' Services, the Victims' Services Advisory Committee, the State Offender Supervision Fund and other funds; and making repeals," in crime victims, providing for legal standing.
8	The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9	hereby enacts as follows:
10	Section 1. Chapter 2 of the act of November 24, 1998
11	(P.L.882, No.111), known as the Crime Victims Act, is amended by
12	adding a subchapter to read:
13	SUBCHAPTER C
14	LEGAL STANDING
15	Section 231. Crime victims.
16	A victim, or the Commonwealth on behalf of a victim, shall
17	have legal standing to assert and enforce a right enumerated in
18	this act or any other right afforded to the victim by law in a
19	trial or appellate court or before an official body with
20	jurisdiction over the victim's case.

1 <u>Section 232.</u> Construction.

2	Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to:
3	(1) Grant party status to a victim.
4	(2) Provide grounds for an individual accused of a crime
5	or act of delinquency to obtain any form of relief in the
6	proceeding in which the individual is accused of a crime or
7	act of delinquency.
8	(3) Create a cause of action for compensation or damages
9	against the Commonwealth, a political subdivision, officer,
10	employee or agent of the Commonwealth, a political
11	subdivision or an officer or employee of a court.
12	Section 233. Commonwealth waiver.
13	The Commonwealth may not waive a victim's rights on behalf of
14	the victim without a showing that the victim has knowingly_
15	agreed to the waiver.
16	Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.