

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

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 12, 2022

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 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~~ UPON REQUEST of a <--
17 victim, shall have legal standing to assert and enforce a right
18 enumerated in this act or any other right afforded to the victim
19 by law in a trial or appellate court or before an official body
20 with jurisdiction over the victim's case.

1 Section 232. Construction.

2 ~~Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to THIS~~ <--

3 SUBCHAPTER SHALL NOT:

4 (1) Grant party status to a victim.

5 (2) Provide grounds for an individual accused of a crime
6 or act of delinquency to obtain any form of relief in the
7 proceeding in which the individual is accused of a crime or
8 act of delinquency.

9 (3) Create a cause of action for compensation or damages
10 against the Commonwealth, a political subdivision, officer,
11 employee or agent of the Commonwealth, a political
12 subdivision or an officer or employee of a court.

13 Section 233. Commonwealth waiver.

14 ~~The Commonwealth may not waive a victim's rights on behalf of~~ <--

15 ~~the victim~~ ASSERT ON BEHALF OF A VICTIM THAT THE VICTIM HAS <--
16 WAIVED A RIGHT without a showing that the victim has knowingly
17 agreed to the waiver.

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