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## 2019 Legislative Summary

### All Victims of Crime

**Public Act No. 19-84**, An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to Special Parole and Parole Discharge Statutes

- Requires the Judicial Branch's Office of Victim Services (OVS) to notify certain victims that the Board of Pardons and Paroles intends to consider terminating a person's special parole period. It allows any victim to submit a statement to the board about such special parole termination
- The bill makes various changes to the parole and special parole review processes, including establishing a panel and process for special parole that is separate and distinct from the regular parole review process

**Public Act No. 19-64**, An Act Concerning Court Operations (*in part*)

- Adds victim services advocates employed by the Judicial Branch to the list of professionals who the law designates as mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect
- Allows the Office of Victims Services or a victims compensation commissioner to order compensation for pecuniary loss to an injured victim or the relatives or dependents of an injured or deceased victim for attendance at juvenile proceedings and Board of Pardons and Parole hearings

### Victims of Domestic Violence

**Public Act No. 19-146**, An Act Requiring the Provision of Information Concerning Domestic Violence Services and Resources to Students, Parents and Guardians

- Requires the Office of Victim Services, in consultation with the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, to compile information on domestic violence victim services and resources and provide such information to the State Department of Education
- Requires the State Department of Education to publish the information on its website
- Requires the State Department of Education to disseminate the above information to local and regional school boards

- Requires each school board to provide the information to any student, parent or guardian who expresses to a school employee that they do not feel safe in the home because of domestic violence

**Public Act No. 19-189**, An Act Concerning the Parity Between Sexual Assault in the Case of a Spousal or Cohabiting Relationship and Other Crimes of Sexual Assault and Concerning the Investigation of a Family Violence Crime

- Narrows the exceptions for police, while responding to a family violence complaint, to arrest the person the officer believes is the dominant aggressor

**Public Act No. 19-43**, An Act Concerning the Confidentiality of Law Enforcement Records Concerning Victims of Sexual Assault and Family Violence

- Expands the disclosure exemption to the Freedom of Information Act to include identifying information of victims of family violence

### Victims of Sexual Assault

**Public Act No. 19-189**, An Act Concerning the Parity Between Sexual Assault in the Case of a Spousal or Cohabiting Relationship and Other Crimes of Sexual Assault and Concerning the Investigation of a Family Violence Crime

- Repeals the law that specifically criminalizes sexual assault in a spousal or cohabiting relationship and repeals exemptions for married individuals in sexual assault statutes

**Public Act No. 19-16**, An Act Combatting Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment

**Public Act No. 19-93**, An Act Concerning Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault

- Enhances employer sponsored training on sexual assault and sexual harassment
- Expands the definition of discriminatory practice in the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) statutes to include, an employer's failure to provide sexual harassment training
- Makes various changes concerning sexual assault, sexual harassment, discrimination complaints filed with CHRO
- Extends the time for filing a civil case related to sexual abuse for victims under 21
- Increases the penalty for subjecting someone to sexual contact if the victim is mentally incapacitated and cannot consent
- Eliminates or extends the statute of limitations for various sexual assault and related crimes

**Public Act No. 19-114**, An Act Concerning Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners

- Makes various changes to the Office of Victim Services' (OVS) Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) program

**Public Act No. 19-43**, An Act Concerning the Confidentiality of Law Enforcement Records Concerning Victims of Sexual Assault and Family Violence

- Expands the disclosure exemption to the Freedom of Information Act to include identifying information of victims of sexual assault and related crimes

## Vulnerable Victims

**Public Act No. 19-116**, An Act Concerning Registries of Persons Found Responsible for Assaults or Other Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation or Abandonment of Elderly Persons or Persons with Disabilities

- Requires the executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, and Seniors to provide a portal on the commission's website that includes links to publicly available background databases
- Convene a working group to develop strategies to raise public awareness of these databases to people hiring providers to care for adults aged 60 and older, children, or individuals with disabilities

## Victims of Juvenile Offenders

**Public Act No. 19-110**, An Act Concerning the Suspension of Delinquency Proceedings for Treatment or Other Services in Motor Vehicle Theft or Misuse Cases and Concerning Detention of Juveniles

- Allows a child charged with a delinquency offense involving a motor vehicle to request a suspension of the delinquency proceedings for up to six months, during which time the child must participate in services to address any condition or behavior directly related to the offense, **without notification to the victim or an opportunity to be heard prior to the suspension**

**Public Act No. 19-187**, An Act Concerning Confidentiality in the Case of a Discretionary Transfer of a Juvenile's Case to the Regular Criminal Docket and Implementing the Recommendations of the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee (*in part*)

- Makes the proceedings and records of cases transferred from juvenile to adult court confidential, **strips crime victims of their constitutional rights to be notified, attend and be heard in adult criminal proceedings**