

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4978**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 12, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

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**District 29 (Essex)**

**Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA**

**District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN**

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**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

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**District 13 (Monmouth)**

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**Assemblywomen Jaffer, Jasey, Swain, Murphy, Assemblyman Karabinchak, Assemblywomen McKnight, Quijano, Lopez, Park, Senators Gill, Cruz-Perez and Pou**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance in Department of Law and Public Safety.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee on February 16, 2023, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/20/2023)

1 AN ACT establishing the Division of Violence Intervention and Victim  
2 Assistance in the Department of Law and Public Safety, <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup>  
3 amending and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes <sup>1</sup>[,  
4 and making an appropriation]<sup>1</sup>.  
5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
7 of New Jersey:  
8

9 1. (New section) There is hereby established in the Department  
10 of Law and Public Safety the Division of Violence Intervention and  
11 Victim Assistance. The division shall be under the immediate  
12 supervision of an executive director who shall be appointed by and  
13 serve at the pleasure of the Attorney General and who shall  
14 administer the work of the division under the direction and  
15 supervision of the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall  
16 fix the compensation of the executive director within the limits of  
17 available appropriations.  
18

19 2. (New section) The Attorney General shall organize the work  
20 of the division in bureaus and other organizational units as the  
21 Attorney General may determine to be necessary for efficient and  
22 effective operation and shall assign to the division employees in the  
23 Department of Law and Public Safety as may be necessary to assist  
24 the executive director in the performance of the executive director's  
25 duties. <sup>1</sup>All employees of the division, except for secretarial and  
26 clerical personnel, shall be in the unclassified service of the Civil  
27 Service.<sup>1</sup>  
28

29 3. (New section) a. The Division of Violence Intervention and  
30 Victim Assistance shall oversee and coordinate in the Department  
31 of Law and Public Safety all matters related to violence intervention  
32 and prevention and victim assistance and services performed by or  
33 on behalf of the Attorney General, including but not limited to:

34 (1) directly providing, within the limits of resources made  
35 available for this purpose, victim and violence intervention and  
36 prevention services, and coordinating the delivery of the services  
37 provided through the various divisions in the Department of Law  
38 and Public Safety;

39 (2) reviewing and overseeing the department's provision of  
40 services to victims of crime, human trafficking, and violence, and  
41 services to communities for the prevention of violence;

42 (3) monitoring and administering the department's violence  
43 intervention and prevention programs, initiatives, and services  
44 intended to reduce the cycle of violence, and advocating to advance  
45 the objectives of these measures;

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AHS committee amendments adopted February 16, 2023.

- 1 (4) developing and implementing measures and strategies to  
2 better address the needs of underserved victim populations;
- 3 (5) assisting, supporting, consulting on and participating in the  
4 development and implementation of initiatives, projects, and  
5 strategies to address issues related to violence reduction and victim  
6 support, including but not limited to the development of a State  
7 infrastructure for victim assistance and violence intervention and  
8 prevention services, formation of a Statewide strategy for the  
9 growth and standardization of services, and directing efforts to  
10 enhance community engagement and program accountability;
- 11 (6) serving as a resource center and facilitator to provide  
12 technical assistance and training with respect to victim assistance  
13 and violence intervention and prevention services for the purpose of  
14 improving access to available services, promoting awareness of  
15 available resources and models of services, expanding the scope and  
16 availability of these services, and developing new preventative  
17 strategies;
- 18 (7) building partnerships between, coordinating with, and  
19 supporting initiatives to improve public health and safety involving  
20 law enforcement entities and victim assistance and violence  
21 intervention and prevention service providers;
- 22 (8) developing intergovernmental partnerships and engaging in  
23 outreach and collaboration efforts with other State, county, and  
24 local government agencies on policy and programmatic issues,  
25 reforms and initiatives related to violence intervention, and victim  
26 assistance;
- 27 (9) safeguarding victims' rights and ensuring appropriate  
28 consideration of victims' rights and interests in the performance of  
29 public safety, law enforcement, and prosecutorial functions by other  
30 divisions in the department;
- 31 (10) performing, arranging for, or coordinating community  
32 support and assistance programs and services in the aftermath of  
33 crimes involving multiple victims such as mass shootings, school  
34 shootings, or acts of terrorism; providing assistance to other  
35 governmental entities in their response to these crimes; and serving  
36 as a repository of resources to assist communities in preparing for  
37 these events;
- 38 (11) developing grant applications and applying for available  
39 grant funding for violence intervention and victim assistance  
40 projects and programs on behalf of the department;
- 41 (12) receiving and processing, or monitoring the receipt and  
42 processing of, applications from State and local government  
43 agencies and nonprofit organizations for violence intervention and  
44 prevention and victim service or assistance project grants that may  
45 be made available from or through the department, including but  
46 not limited to the promulgation of standards and procedures related  
47 to the solicitation, qualification, and award of grants; and

1 (13) performing other functions as the Attorney General may  
2 prescribe.

3 b. In carrying out its responsibilities, the division shall take  
4 steps as it deems appropriate in furtherance of the following  
5 objectives:

6 (1) to promote a trauma-informed approach in the provision of  
7 victim and violence intervention and prevention services by the  
8 department, other State agencies, and local and county governments  
9 providing these services;

10 (2) to provide and coordinate the provision of services to victims  
11 of crime and violence at the State, county, and local levels in order  
12 to ameliorate the impact of crime and violence and to prevent future  
13 violence;

14 (3) to promote access to and deployment of services to  
15 vulnerable and less accessible victim populations, including but not  
16 limited to promoting policies that recognize that an individual's  
17 status as a prior offender should not be grounds for denial of  
18 services that could prevent future violence;

19 (4) to serve as a point of contact and engagement for community  
20 members, stakeholders, crime survivors, former clients, and justice-  
21 involved persons to offer input, local knowledge, and collaborative  
22 viewpoints for the purpose of improving services and influencing  
23 policymaking;

24 (5) to support and advocate for policies that promote the hiring  
25 and recruitment of culturally competent individuals in the field of  
26 victim assistance and violence intervention and prevention services;

27 (6) to promote policies and practices that encourage the use of  
28 peer support, such as credible messengers, individuals with lived  
29 experience, and trauma survivors in the provision of services;

30 (7) to identify best practices and evidence-based interventions in  
31 the provision of victim and violence intervention and prevention  
32 services and promote these measures within the department, other  
33 State agencies, and local county governments that provide these  
34 services through methods including, but not limited to, training, and  
35 reporting; and

36 (8) to provide or direct resources and assistance to communities  
37 and victims to address and ameliorate the impact of hate crimes or  
38 acts of violence which are motivated by or evince a discriminatory  
39 intent.

40

41 4. (New section) a. All the functions, powers, and duties of the  
42 Victims of Crime Compensation Office in the Department of Law and  
43 Public Safety, originally established as the Victims of Crime  
44 Compensation Agency pursuant to P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-1 et seq.)  
45 and continued as the Victims of Crime Compensation Office pursuant  
46 to P.L.2007, c.95 (C.52:4B-3.2 et al.) and the Reorganization Plan No.  
47 001-2008, are transferred to the Division of Violence Intervention and  
48 Victim Assistance established hereunder.

1        b. <sup>1</sup>【The director and deputy director of the Victims of Crime  
2 Compensation Office shall not be subject to the provisions of Title  
3 11A of the New Jersey Statutes. All other】 Except for secretarial and  
4 clerical personnel, all<sup>1</sup> employees of the Victims of Crime  
5 Compensation Office, including the Victims of Crime Compensation  
6 Office investigators, shall be in the <sup>1</sup>【career service and subject to the  
7 provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes】 unclassified  
8 service of the Civil Service<sup>1</sup>.

9  
10        5. (New section) a. The Attorney General shall establish an  
11 Office of Violence Intervention and Prevention in the Division of  
12 Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance in the Department of  
13 Law and Public Safety under the supervision of <sup>1</sup>either<sup>1</sup> a <sup>1</sup>Director  
14 or<sup>1</sup> Chief of the Office of Violence Intervention and Prevention.  
15 The office shall promote and facilitate the performance or provision  
16 of violence intervention and prevention services set forth in section  
17 3 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
18 bill) and manage and oversee the State's violence intervention and  
19 prevention work. The office's responsibilities shall include:

20        (1) managing and overseeing violence intervention and  
21 prevention programs maintained and operated by the department,  
22 including but not limited to any hospital-based or community-based  
23 violence intervention program;

24        (2) developing, and supporting the effectuation of, policies and  
25 projects related to violence intervention and prevention, including  
26 but not limited to a Statewide infrastructure of violence intervention  
27 and prevention services;

28        (3) assisting and advising community-based programs and local  
29 entities in their development and implementation of violence  
30 intervention and prevention programs and strategies, including but  
31 not limited to promoting, supporting, and facilitating, through the  
32 provision of training, guidance and technical assistance,  
33 community-based violence intervention and prevention programs  
34 that adhere to or incorporate a public health approach to public  
35 safety, identifying best practices and evidence-based interventions,  
36 and recommending programs and services to be supported by local  
37 governing bodies which address community violence;

38        (4) developing or providing support for the development of a  
39 network of community-based organizations and health and mental  
40 health providers within the community that offer outreach that  
41 supports communities and individuals who experience or are at risk  
42 of experiencing community violence;

43        (5) supporting school-based opportunities to incorporate violence  
44 intervention and prevention strategies that address community  
45 violence;

46        (6) promoting the use of peer support services, such as credible  
47 messengers or other individuals with lived experience to serve as

1 mentors or role models for individuals who are at risk of engaging  
2 in criminal activity or who have a high risk of involvement in  
3 violence;

4 (7) identifying, developing, and prioritizing approaches to  
5 violence intervention and prevention that are trauma-informed, and  
6 promoting solutions that are supportive of and incorporate mental  
7 health services; and

8 (8) establishing partnerships with institutions of higher education  
9 and research centers to identify and develop tools for evaluating and  
10 measuring the effectiveness of violence intervention and prevention  
11 strategies and partnering on grant applications studying or  
12 implementing the same.

13 b. The office may apply for and accept on behalf of the State  
14 any grants from the federal government or any agency thereof, or  
15 from any foundation, corporation, association or person, and may  
16 comply with the terms, conditions, and limitations thereof, for any  
17 of the purposes of the office. Any money received may be  
18 expended by the division, subject to any limitations imposed in the  
19 grants, to effectuate any of the purposes of the office upon warrant  
20 of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting of the  
21 Department of the Treasury on vouchers certified and approved by  
22 the director.

23 c. The Attorney General may establish a local, county, or  
24 regional structure for the execution of violence intervention and  
25 prevention services set forth in this section.

26

27 6. (New section) a. The Attorney General shall establish an  
28 Office of Victim Support and Assistance in the Division of  
29 Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance in the Department of  
30 Law and Public Safety under the supervision of <sup>1</sup>either<sup>1</sup> a <sup>1</sup>Director  
31 or<sup>1</sup> Chief of the Office of Victim Support and Assistance. The  
32 office shall promote and facilitate the performance or provision of  
33 victim support and assistance services set forth in section 3 of  
34 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
35 and oversee the department's victim-related services, in a manner  
36 consistent with the goal of making victim assistance a key strategy  
37 for a public health approach to public safety that prevents violence  
38 and victimization. The office's responsibilities shall include:

39 (1) providing strategy and resources for the State to address the  
40 needs of victims of crimes, and through this assistance, to intervene  
41 in violence and prevent repeat victimization;

42 (2) setting departmental policy with respect to victims of crime  
43 and violence, including but not limited to victims of sexual assault,  
44 victims of domestic violence and intimate partner abuse, youth  
45 victims, victims of discrimination and bias-based crimes, and  
46 immigrant populations;

47 (3) serving as a repository of resources, information, best  
48 practices, and guidance for communities in the aftermath of mass or

1 multiple acts of violence or bias-based acts, and developing policies  
2 and partnerships to prevent these incidents;

3 (4) identifying victim populations in need of support and  
4 assistance, including, but not limited to, victims of non-violent  
5 offenses, and communities and demographics that are  
6 disproportionately affected by violence, and developing policies for  
7 these populations;

8 (5) enhancing access to healing services after incidents of  
9 victimization;

10 (6) providing technical assistance, training, and guidance to  
11 other divisions and organizational units within the department  
12 relating to the provision of victim support and assistance;

13 (7) identifying best practices and evidence-based interventions  
14 for improving services to victims, and providing resources and  
15 toolkits to State and local government agencies to assist in the  
16 effective implementation of these strategies;

17 (8) identifying, developing, and prioritizing trauma-informed  
18 approaches to victim assistance and violence intervention that  
19 promote solutions that are supportive of and incorporate mental  
20 health services;

21 (9) identifying, developing recommendations on, and setting  
22 crime response policies that may impact the range of victim  
23 populations, including restorative justice approaches and other  
24 solutions; and

25 (10) identifying and cultivating survivor-centered strategies  
26 through guidance, policy and outreach support, and funding.

27 b. The office may apply for and accept on behalf of the State  
28 any grants from the federal government or any agency thereof, or  
29 from any foundation, corporation, association or person, and may  
30 comply with the terms, conditions and limitations imposed in the  
31 grants, to effectuate any of the purposes of the office upon warrant  
32 of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting of the  
33 Department of the Treasury on vouchers certified and approved by  
34 the director.

35 c. The Attorney General may designate the Office of Victim  
36 Support and Assistance to be the programmatic manager of victim-  
37 related federal and State grant funds, including grants issued to the  
38 State under the federal Victims of Crime Act and the federal  
39 Violence Against Women Act, which are allocated to or  
40 administered by the department.

41

42 7. (New section) The Attorney General shall establish an  
43 Office of Trial and Criminal Justice Process in the Division of  
44 Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance in the Department of  
45 Law and Public Safety under the supervision of 'either' a 'Director  
46 or' Chief of the Office of Trial and Criminal Justice Process. The  
47 office shall promote and facilitate the performance or provision of  
48 victim support and assistance services set forth in section 3 of

1 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),  
2 coordinate and set policy for crime victims as they navigate the  
3 criminal justice process, and enhance crime victims' access to  
4 services. The office's responsibilities shall include:

5 (1) advising the New Jersey State Office of Victim-Witness  
6 Advocacy and the county prosecutor's victim witness advocates;

7 (2) receiving and reviewing reports from the Office of Victim-  
8 Witness Advocacy and the county prosecutor's victim witness  
9 advocates;

10 (3) setting Statewide policy, identifying best practices, and  
11 receiving and reviewing reports regarding performances and  
12 compliance with policies and rules for the Office of Victim-Witness  
13 Advocacy and the county prosecutor's victim witness advocates;

14 (4) developing policy for witnesses and victims of crime who  
15 are not currently served entities at the State, county, or municipal  
16 levels;

17 (5) identifying best practices and setting policies aimed at better  
18 informing and empowering victims of crime; and

19 (6) coordinating with organizational units under the direction of  
20 the Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance and  
21 other divisions or departments regarding services affecting victims  
22 in the criminal justice process.

23

24 8. (New section) The Executive Director of the Division of  
25 Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance shall adopt rules and  
26 regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
27 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) necessary to implement the  
28 provisions of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature  
29 as this bill).

30

31 9. Section 2 of P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-2) is amended to read  
32 as follows:

33 2. As used in P.L.1971, c.317:

34 "Agency" means the Victims of Crime Compensation Agency;

35 "Child" means an unmarried person who is under 21 years of age  
36 and includes a stepchild or an adopted child;

37 "Dependent" means a relative of a deceased victim who was  
38 wholly or partially dependent upon the victim's income at the time  
39 of the victim's death and shall include the child of a victim born  
40 after the victim's death;

41 "Legal assistance" means assistance provided to a crime victim  
42 in the enforcement of victim's rights in all courts; family law  
43 matters, including but not limited to child protection actions,  
44 divorce, custody, parenting time, child support, emancipation,  
45 dependency, guardianship, and family reunification; obtaining  
46 protective and restraining orders; employment matters, including  
47 but not limited to wage and hour claims; accessing public benefits;



1 life planning; and any other situation for which an eligible crime  
2 victim needs legal services related to the victimization;

3 “Personal injury” means actual bodily harm and includes  
4 pregnancy and mental or nervous shock;

5 “Relative” of any person means the person’s spouse, parent,  
6 grandparent, stepfather, stepmother, child, grandchild, brother,  
7 sister, half brother, half sister, or parent of the person’s spouse;

8 “Relevant evidence” means evidence having a tendency in reason  
9 to prove or disprove any fact of consequences to the determination  
10 of the action and that is deemed to be admissible under the rules of  
11 evidence and does not include rumor, supposition, and speculation,  
12 hearsay or opinion, except as otherwise deemed admissible under  
13 the rules of evidence;

14 “Review Board” or “board” means the Victims of Crime  
15 Compensation Review Board established by section 2 of P.L.2007,  
16 c.95 (C.52:4B-3.2);

17 “Victim” means a person who suffers personal, physical, or  
18 psychological injury or death as a result of the conduct of another  
19 person who commits against that person any of the offenses  
20 specified in section 11 of P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-11) or an act by  
21 a juvenile, which if committed by an adult, would constitute a  
22 violation of any of these offenses. The term shall include, in the  
23 case of a criminal homicide or an act by a juvenile which, if  
24 committed by an adult, would constitute a criminal homicide, the  
25 spouse, parent, legal guardian, grandparent, child, sibling, domestic  
26 or civil union partner of the decedent, or parent of the decedent’s  
27 child;

28 “Victims of Crime Compensation Office” or “office” means the  
29 Victims of Crime Compensation Agency established pursuant to  
30 P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-1 et seq.) which is continued as the  
31 Victims of Crime Compensation Office pursuant to P.L.2007, c.95  
32 (C.52:4B-3.2 et al.) and Reorganization Plan No. 001-2008 and  
33 allocated to the Division of Violence Intervention and Victim  
34 Assistance pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
35 before the Legislature as this bill).

36 (cf: P.L.2019, c.380, s.1)

37

38 10. Section 5 of P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-5) is amended to read  
39 as follows:

40 5. The agency is authorized to appoint and fix the duties and  
41 compensation of such officers, examiners, and other experts as may  
42 be necessary for carrying out its functions under this act, and the  
43 provisions of section 4 of P.L.1970, c.74 (C.52:17B-100) shall be  
44 applicable to these employees. The agency may, subject to Title  
45 11A of the New Jersey Statutes, "Civil Service," appoint and fix the  
46 duties and compensation of such other assistants and employees as  
47 are necessary. The compensation fixed pursuant to this section

1 shall be within the limits of the funds appropriated or otherwise  
2 made available to the agency for that purpose.

3 (cf: P.L.2007, c.95, s.5)

4

5 11. Section 6 of P.L.1985, c.404 (C.52:4B-44) is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 6. a. The Attorney General shall, through the Office of Victim-  
8 Witness Advocacy in the Division of Criminal Justice in the  
9 Department of Law and Public Safety and in consultation with the  
10 county prosecutors and the Office of Trial and Criminal Justice  
11 Process in the Division of Violence Intervention and Victim  
12 Assistance, promulgate standards for law enforcement agencies to  
13 ensure that the rights of crime victims are enforced.

14 b. The standards shall require that the Office of Victim-  
15 Witness Advocacy in the Division of Criminal Justice and each  
16 county prosecutor's office provide the following services upon  
17 request for victims and witnesses involved in the prosecution of a  
18 case:

19 (1) Orientation information about the criminal justice system  
20 and the victim's and witness's role in the criminal justice process;

21 (2) Notification of any change in the case status and of final  
22 disposition;

23 (3) Information on crime prevention and on available responses  
24 to witness intimidation;

25 (4) Information about available services to meet needs resulting  
26 from the crime and referrals to service agencies, where appropriate;

27 (5) Advance notice of the date, time and place of the defendant's  
28 initial appearance before a judicial officer, submission to the court  
29 of any plea agreement, the trial and sentencing;

30 (6) Advance notice of when presence in court is not needed;

31 (7) Advice about available compensation, restitution and other  
32 forms of recovery and assistance in applying for government  
33 compensation;

34 (8) A waiting or reception area separate from the defendant for  
35 use during court proceedings;

36 (9) An escort or accompaniment for intimidated victims or  
37 witnesses during court appearances;

38 (10) Information about directions, parking, courthouse and  
39 courtroom locations, transportation services and witness fees, in  
40 advance of court appearances;

41 (11) Assistance for victims and witnesses in meeting special  
42 needs when required to make court appearances, such as  
43 transportation and child care arrangements;

44 (12) Assistance in making travel and lodging arrangements for  
45 out-of-State witnesses;

46 (13) Notification to employers of victims and witnesses, if  
47 cooperation in the investigation or prosecution causes absence from  
48 work;

- 1 (14) Notification of the case disposition, including the trial and  
2 sentencing;
- 3 (15) Assistance to victims in submitting a written statement to a  
4 representative of the county prosecutor's office about the impact of  
5 the crime prior to the prosecutor's final decision concerning whether  
6 formal charges will be filed;
- 7 (16) Advice to victims about their right to make a statement  
8 about the impact of the crime for inclusion in the presentence report  
9 or at time of parole consideration, if applicable;
- 10 (17) Notification to victims of the right to make an in-person  
11 statement, prior to sentencing, directly to the sentencing court  
12 concerning the impact of the crime;
- 13 (18) Expediting the return of property when no longer needed as  
14 evidence;
- 15 (19) Advise and counsel, or refer for advice or counseling,  
16 victims of sexual assault, or other criminal acts involving a risk of  
17 transmission of disease, concerning available medical testing and  
18 assist such victims, or refer such victims for assistance, in obtaining  
19 appropriate testing, counseling and medical care and in making  
20 application to the Victims of Crime Compensation Office for  
21 compensation for the costs of such testing, counseling and care;
- 22 (20) Assistance to victims in submitting a written impact  
23 statement to a representative of the county prosecutor's office  
24 concerning the impact of the crime which shall be considered prior  
25 to the prosecutor's accepting a negotiated plea agreement containing  
26 recommendations as to sentence and assistance to victims in  
27 securing an explanation of the terms of any such agreement and the  
28 reasons for the agreement;
- 29 (21) Notification to the victim of the defendant's release from  
30 custody which shall include:
  - 31 (a) notice of the defendant's escape from custody and return to  
32 custody following escape;
  - 33 (b) notice of any other release from custody, including  
34 placement in an Intensive Supervision Program or other alternative  
35 disposition, and any associated conditions of release;
  - 36 (c) notice of the filing by an inmate of an application for  
37 commutation of sentence pursuant to N.J.S.2A:167-4 and its  
38 disposition;
  - 39 (d) notice of parole consideration pursuant to provisions of  
40 P.L.1979, c.441 (C.30:4-123.45 et seq.); and
  - 41 (e) notice of the pending release of an inmate due to expiration  
42 of sentence;
- 43 (22) Interpreting services for victims and witnesses when  
44 necessary to assist a victim or witness who is hearing impaired or  
45 developmentally disabled as defined in section 3 of P.L.1977, c.82  
46 (C.30:6D-3) to understand questions and frame answers; and

1 (23) Providing any applicable assistance to victims of sexual  
2 assault or sexual misconduct who are incarcerated in a State  
3 correctional facility that is available to other victims or witnesses.

4 c. In a case involving a victim of aggravated sexual assault or  
5 sexual assault as defined in subsection a. or c. of N.J.S.2C:14-2, the  
6 Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy or the county prosecutor's  
7 office involved in the case shall:

8 (1) Notify the victim of the victim's right to obtain an approved  
9 serological test for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)  
10 or infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or any  
11 other related virus identified as a probable causative agent of AIDS,  
12 and assist the victim, or refer the victim for assistance, in obtaining  
13 a test and appropriate counseling and medical care;

14 (2) Notify the victim of the victim's right to obtain a court order  
15 pursuant to subsection a. of section 4 of P.L.1993, c.364 (C.2C:43-  
16 2.2) requiring the offender to submit to an approved serological test  
17 for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or infection with  
18 the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or any other related virus  
19 identified as a probable causative agent of AIDS in the event that  
20 the offender is indicted, formally charged, convicted or adjudicated  
21 delinquent;

22 (3) Communicate the request of a victim who agrees to seek an  
23 order pursuant to subsection a. of section 4 of P.L.1993, c.364  
24 (C.2C:43-2.2) to the prosecutor handling the case and notify the  
25 victim or arrange for the victim to be notified of the test result; and

26 (4) Assist the victim in applying to the Victims of Crime  
27 Compensation Office for compensation for the costs of testing,  
28 counseling and medical care.

29 d. The Attorney General shall, through the Office of Victim-  
30 Witness Advocacy and in consultation with the Commissioner of  
31 Health, the Superintendent of State Police and representatives of  
32 providers of sexual assault services, to be designated by the  
33 Director of the Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy, coordinate the  
34 establishment of standard protocols for the provision of information  
35 and services to victims of sexual assault, and shall make such  
36 protocols available to victims upon request, except that the  
37 provision of information and services with regard to emergency  
38 contraception and sexually transmitted diseases shall be in  
39 accordance with P.L.2005, c.50 (C.26:2H-12.6b et al.).

40 e. In a case involving a victim of human trafficking as defined  
41 in section 1 of P.L.2005, c.77 (C.2C:13-8), the Office of Victim-  
42 Witness Advocacy or the county prosecutor's office involved in the  
43 case shall ensure that the victim of human trafficking obtains  
44 assistance in receiving any available benefits or services, including  
45 assistance in receiving any necessary certifications or endorsements  
46 needed to be recognized as having federal T non-immigrant status  
47 for the purpose of receiving any federal benefits or services

1 available pursuant to the "Trafficking Victims Protection  
2 Reauthorization Act of 2003," 22 U.S.C. s. 7101 et seq.

3 f. The Attorney General shall, through the Office of Victim-  
4 Witness Advocacy and in consultation with the Commissioner of  
5 Health, the Superintendent of State Police and representatives of  
6 providers of services to victims of human trafficking, to be  
7 designated by the Director of the Office of Victim-Witness  
8 Advocacy, coordinate the establishment of standard protocols for  
9 the provision of information and services to victims of human  
10 trafficking, including coordination of efforts with the appropriate  
11 federal authorities pursuant to the "Trafficking Victims Protection  
12 Reauthorization Act of 2003," 22 U.S.C. s. 7101 et seq. and shall  
13 make such protocols available to victims upon request.

14 g. The Attorney General, shall, through the Office of Victim-  
15 Witness Advocacy and in consultation with the Commissioner of  
16 Corrections, promulgate standards to ensure that the rights of  
17 female crime victims incarcerated in State correctional facilities are  
18 enforced. The standards shall include a requirement that  
19 unannounced visits be made to the facilities housing female inmates  
20 and random surveys be conducted for the purpose of identifying  
21 inmates who are the victims of sexual assault or sexual misconduct;  
22 an inmate who is determined to be a victim shall be informed of the  
23 available services set forth in subsection b. of this section and, upon  
24 request, be provided with any of these services. An inmate chosen  
25 by inmates in a housing unit as the liaison between the correctional  
26 facility administration and the inmate population shall be provided  
27 with a copy of this section of law. The liaison also shall be  
28 provided with a summary of the assistance and services available  
29 pursuant to subsection b. of this section for dissemination to the  
30 inmates in the housing unit.

31 h. The Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy shall issue, upon  
32 request of the Office of Trial and Criminal Justice Process in the  
33 Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance, reports  
34 regarding the Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy's performance of  
35 its duties as may be requested, and all State departments and  
36 agencies, boards, commissions, and authorities, as well as  
37 municipal and county governing bodies, boards, commissions, and  
38 authorities, shall cooperate fully in the preparation of any reports to  
39 the extent required and appropriate.

40 (cf: P.L.2019, c.308, s.1)

41

42 12. Section 7 of P.L.2001, c.81 (C.52:4B-55) is amended to read  
43 as follows:

44 7. a. The Attorney General shall establish a Sexual Assault  
45 Nurse Examiner Program Coordinating Council comprised of: the  
46 Attorney General, the Director of the Division on Women, the Chief  
47 of the Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy, the Executive Director  
48 of the Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance, the

1 Executive Director of the New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual  
2 Assault, and the Executive Director of the New Jersey Board of  
3 Nursing, or their respective designees; a representative from the  
4 New Jersey County Prosecutor's Association; and the program  
5 coordinators appointed or designated pursuant to section 3 of  
6 P.L.2001, c.81 (C.52:4B-51).

7 The Attorney General, through the sexual assault unit established  
8 pursuant to section 8 of P.L.2001, c.81 (C.52:4B-56), and in  
9 consultation with the coordinating council, shall oversee the  
10 Statewide Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program and identify and  
11 obtain any State and federal funding available to supplement the  
12 funds appropriated to operate the program.

13 b. The coordinating council shall review the effectiveness of  
14 the services provided by the State to victims of sexual assault and  
15 make recommendations to the Attorney General for any needed  
16 changes in the standards, regulations or State policy concerning the  
17 provision of victim services.

18 (cf: P.L.2012, c.16, s.136)

19

20 13. Section 8 of P.L.2001, c.81 (C.52:4B-56) is amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 8. The Attorney General shall establish a sexual assault unit  
23 within the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law  
24 and Public Safety which shall include a sexual assault investigator  
25 and a certified forensic sexual assault nurse examiner.

26 The unit shall **【oversee】** consult with the Division of Violence  
27 Intervention and Victim Assistance in its oversight of the operation  
28 of the county sexual assault nurse examiner programs, and provide  
29 assistance to counties in the investigation and prosecution of sexual  
30 assaults. The unit shall review all complaints received regarding a  
31 county's investigation and prosecution of a sexual assault and shall  
32 provide recommendations to the Attorney General regarding the  
33 county's investigation and prosecution of the case. The unit also  
34 shall provide training to law enforcement officials and county  
35 prosecutors, on an ongoing basis, in the investigation and  
36 prosecution of sexual assault. Any training the unit may provide to  
37 county prosecutors and assistant county prosecutors shall comply  
38 with the requirements of section 1 of P.L.2021, c.66 (C.52:4B-  
39 54.2).

40 (cf: P.L.2021, c.66, s.2)

41

42 14. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237) is amended to  
43 read as follows:

44 1. a. There is hereby created, in the Division of Criminal  
45 Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, a commission  
46 to be known as the Commission on Human Trafficking, consisting  
47 of **【15】** 17 members as follows: the Attorney General, or **【his】** the  
48 Attorney General's designee; the Commissioner of Children and

1 Families, or **[his]** the commissioner's designee; the Commissioner  
2 of Human Services, or **[his]** the commissioner's designee; a county  
3 prosecutor, appointed by the Governor based upon the  
4 recommendation of the County Prosecutors Association of the State  
5 of New Jersey; one member of the New Jersey Human Trafficking  
6 Task Force established within the Department of Law and Public  
7 Safety, designated by the Attorney General; the Executive Director  
8 of the Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance or  
9 the executive director's designee; two public members appointed by  
10 the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Senate  
11 President, one representing law enforcement and one representing a  
12 victim's assistance organization; one public member appointed by  
13 the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Senate  
14 Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health care facility  
15 or mental health services; two public members appointed by the  
16 Governor based upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the  
17 General Assembly, one representing law enforcement and one  
18 representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member  
19 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the  
20 Assembly Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health  
21 care facility or mental health services; and **[four]** five public  
22 members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a  
23 representative of a child advocacy organization concerning missing,  
24 abducted, or exploited children, and one of whom shall be a human  
25 trafficking survivor. All public members shall have experience  
26 with, possess a background in, or demonstrate a specialized  
27 knowledge of, the legal, policy, educational, social, or  
28 psychological aspects of human trafficking.

29 b. (1) Of the public members first appointed:

30 (a) the following shall serve for a term of three years: one  
31 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate  
32 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the  
33 Speaker of the General Assembly; and two members appointed by  
34 the Governor; and

35 (b) the following shall serve for a term of two years: one  
36 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate  
37 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the  
38 Speaker of the General Assembly; each member appointed upon the  
39 recommendation of the Senate and Assembly Minority Leaders; and  
40 **[two]** three members appointed by the Governor.

41 (c) Upon the conclusion of the initial terms, each public member  
42 shall be appointed for a term of three years.

43 (2) Each member appointed shall hold office for the term of  
44 appointment and until a successor shall have been appointed and  
45 qualified.

46 (3) Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be  
47 filled by appointment in the same manner as the original  
48 appointment was made.

1 c. (1) The commission shall organize upon the appointment of  
2 a majority of its authorized membership. The members shall elect  
3 one of the members to serve as chair and vice-chair, and the chair  
4 may appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the  
5 commission.

6 (2) The commission shall meet at those times and places within  
7 the State of New Jersey as the commission shall determine. A  
8 majority of the commission's authorized membership shall  
9 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, for the  
10 performance of any duty, or for the exercise of any power of the  
11 commission.

12 d. The members of the commission shall serve without  
13 compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement for necessary  
14 and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their  
15 official duties within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise  
16 made available to the commission for its purposes.

17 e. The Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law  
18 and Public Safety shall, at the direction of the Attorney General,  
19 provide legal, stenographic, technical, clerical, and other staff and  
20 resource assistance to the commission, and additionally the  
21 commission may incur expenses as may be necessary in order to  
22 perform its duties within the limits of funds appropriated or  
23 otherwise made available to it for its purposes.

24 f. It shall be the duty of the commission to:

25 (1) Evaluate the existing law concerning human trafficking and  
26 the enforcement thereof, and to make recommendations for  
27 legislation, if appropriate;

28 (2) Review existing victim assistance programs and analyze the  
29 costs, organization, and availability of these services for victims of  
30 human trafficking and to make recommendations for legislation, if  
31 appropriate;

32 (3) Promote a coordinated response by public and private  
33 resources for victims of human trafficking; and

34 (4) Develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human  
35 trafficking, victim remedies and services, and trafficking prevention  
36 including the creation of a public awareness sign promoting the  
37 national, 24-hour toll-free hotline telephone service on human  
38 trafficking described under section 18 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-  
39 11), and the promotion of training courses and other educational  
40 materials for use by persons required under section 19 of P.L.2013,  
41 c.51 (C.2C:13-12) to undergo training on the handling of and  
42 response procedures for suspected human trafficking activities.

43 g. The commission shall report annually to the Governor and to  
44 the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-  
45 19.1), its activities, as well as its findings and recommendations for  
46 any needed new services or resources for victims of human  
47 trafficking, and any proposed changes to the current law concerning



1 human trafficking.  
2 (cf: P.L.2021, c.3, s.1)

3  
4 <sup>1</sup>【15. (New section) There is appropriated \$4,500,000 from  
5 the General Fund to the Department of Law and Public Safety for  
6 the establishment of the “Division of Violence Intervention and  
7 Victim Assistance,” pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
8 before the Legislature as this bill).】<sup>1</sup>

9  
10 <sup>1</sup>【16. (New section) In addition to the amounts appropriated  
11 under P.L.2022, c.49, there is appropriated \$1,000,000 from the  
12 General Fund to the Department of Law and Public Safety for the  
13 Office of Crime Compensation Office, originally established as the  
14 Victims of Crime Compensation Agency pursuant to P.L.1971,  
15 c.317 (C.52:4B-1 et seq.) and transferred to the Division of  
16 Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance pursuant to section 4  
17 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
18 for the purpose of victim compensation.】<sup>1</sup>

19  
20 <sup>1</sup>【17.】 15.<sup>1</sup>This act shall take effect <sup>1</sup>【on the first day of the  
21 sixth month following enactment】 immediately<sup>1</sup>.