

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE BILL 5612

Chapter 229, Laws of 2022

67th Legislature
2022 Regular Session

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—VICTIM STATEMENTS AT SENTENCING

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 9, 2022

Passed by the Senate March 8, 2022
Yeas 49 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 4, 2022
Yeas 98 Nays 0

Laurie Jinkins

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Approved March 30, 2022 2:47 PM

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5612** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

SARAH BANNISTER

Secretary

FILED

March 31, 2022

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SENATE BILL 5612

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2022 Regular Session

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2022 Regular Session

By Senators L. Wilson, Warnick, Braun, Brown, Dhingra, Keiser, Lovick, Mullet, Rolfes, Short, Wagoner, and J. Wilson

Prefiled 12/29/21. Read first time 01/10/22. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to ensuring domestic violence victims and
2 survivors of victims have the opportunity to make a statement during
3 sentencing for all domestic violence convictions; and amending RCW
4 7.69.030.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 7.69.030 and 2009 c 138 s 5 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 There shall be a reasonable effort made to ensure that victims,
9 survivors of victims, and witnesses of crimes have the following
10 rights, which apply to any criminal court and/or juvenile court
11 proceeding:

12 (1) With respect to victims of violent or sex crimes, to receive,
13 at the time of reporting the crime to law enforcement officials, a
14 written statement of the rights of crime victims as provided in this
15 chapter. The written statement shall include the name, address, and
16 telephone number of a county or local crime victim/witness program,
17 if such a crime victim/witness program exists in the county;

18 (2) To be informed by local law enforcement agencies or the
19 prosecuting attorney of the final disposition of the case in which
20 the victim, survivor, or witness is involved;

1 (3) To be notified by the party who issued the subpoena that a
2 court proceeding to which they have been subpoenaed will not occur as
3 scheduled, in order to save the person an unnecessary trip to court;

4 (4) To receive protection from harm and threats of harm arising
5 out of cooperation with law enforcement and prosecution efforts, and
6 to be provided with information as to the level of protection
7 available;

8 (5) To be informed of the procedure to be followed to apply for
9 and receive any witness fees to which they are entitled;

10 (6) To be provided, whenever practical, a secure waiting area
11 during court proceedings that does not require them to be in close
12 proximity to defendants and families or friends of defendants;

13 (7) To have any stolen or other personal property expeditiously
14 returned by law enforcement agencies or the superior court when no
15 longer needed as evidence. When feasible, all such property, except
16 weapons, currency, contraband, property subject to evidentiary
17 analysis, and property of which ownership is disputed, shall be
18 photographed and returned to the owner within ten days of being
19 taken;

20 (8) To be provided with appropriate employer intercession
21 services to ensure that employers of victims, survivors of victims,
22 and witnesses of crime will cooperate with the criminal justice
23 process in order to minimize an employee's loss of pay and other
24 benefits resulting from court appearance;

25 (9) To access to immediate medical assistance and not to be
26 detained for an unreasonable length of time by a law enforcement
27 agency before having such assistance administered. However, an
28 employee of the law enforcement agency may, if necessary, accompany
29 the person to a medical facility to question the person about the
30 criminal incident if the questioning does not hinder the
31 administration of medical assistance. Victims of domestic violence,
32 sexual assault, or stalking, as defined in RCW 49.76.020, shall be
33 notified of their right to reasonable leave from employment under
34 chapter 49.76 RCW;

35 (10) With respect to victims of violent and sex crimes, to have a
36 crime victim advocate from a crime victim/witness program, or any
37 other support person of the victim's choosing, present at any
38 prosecutorial or defense interviews with the victim, and at any
39 judicial proceedings related to criminal acts committed against the
40 victim. This subsection applies if practical and if the presence of

1 the crime victim advocate or support person does not cause any
2 unnecessary delay in the investigation or prosecution of the case.
3 The role of the crime victim advocate is to provide emotional support
4 to the crime victim;

5 (11) With respect to victims and survivors of victims, to be
6 physically present in court during trial, or if subpoenaed to
7 testify, to be scheduled as early as practical in the proceedings in
8 order to be physically present during trial after testifying and not
9 to be excluded solely because they have testified;

10 (12) With respect to victims and survivors of victims in any
11 felony case or any case involving domestic violence, to be informed
12 by the prosecuting attorney of the date, time, and place of the trial
13 and of the sentencing hearing (~~((for felony convictions))~~) upon request
14 by a victim or survivor;

15 (13) To submit a victim impact statement or report to the court,
16 with the assistance of the prosecuting attorney if requested, which
17 shall be included in all presentence reports and permanently included
18 in the files and records accompanying the offender committed to the
19 custody of a state agency or institution;

20 (14) With respect to victims and survivors of victims in any
21 felony case or any case involving domestic violence, to present a
22 statement, personally or by representation, at the sentencing hearing
23 (~~((for felony convictions))~~); and

24 (15) With respect to victims and survivors of victims, to entry
25 of an order of restitution by the court in all felony cases, even
26 when the offender is sentenced to confinement, unless extraordinary
27 circumstances exist which make restitution inappropriate in the
28 court's judgment.

Passed by the Senate March 8, 2022.

Passed by the House March 4, 2022.

Approved by the Governor March 30, 2022.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 31, 2022.

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