

# Legislative Analysis



## ALLOW VICTIM CONTACT INFORMATION TO BE SHARED WITH CERTAIN AGENCIES

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4420 as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Julie M. Rogers

Committee: Criminal Justice

Complete to 6-5-23

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

*(Enacted as Public Act 180 of 2023)*

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4420 would amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to allow a police officer or prosecuting attorney to provide a *domestic or sexual violence service provider agency* with the name, demographics, and other pertinent information of, and information to facilitate contact with, a victim of domestic or sexual violence for the purpose of offering supportive services to the victim.

*Domestic or sexual violence service provider agency* would mean an agency that receives funding from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Victim Services or a federal grant through the United States Department of Justice to provide confidential supportive services to victims of domestic or sexual violence or that is associated with an Indian tribe and is providing confidential supportive services to victims of domestic or sexual violence.

A police officer or prosecuting attorney that provides information to a domestic or sexual violence service provider agency would have to notify the victim that the information was provided. The bill would not authorize the disclosure of a confidential address as defined in the Address Confidentiality Program Act. The provision of information under the bill would be in addition to any other requirement under law to provide notice or information to a victim of domestic or sexual violence, including section 15c of Chapter IV of the code, section 3 of the William Van Regenmorter Crime Victim's Rights Act, and section 3 of the Sexual Assault Victim's Access to Justice Act.

Proposed MCL 776.21b

### BACKGROUND:

House Bill 4420 is a reintroduction of HB 5560 of the 2021-22 legislative session. That bill was passed by the House of Representatives.

### BRIEF DISCUSSION:

Law enforcement officers and prosecutors and their staffs (for example, victim advocates) often have contact with survivors of sexual assaults and domestic violence. According to committee testimony, it is a common practice for these individuals to share the contact information of victims with agencies who provide services to survivors of such crimes. House Bill 4420 would codify this practice and ensure that these survivors would be notified that their information had been shared. Service providers are trained to provide the types of assistance

survivors of sexual assaults and domestic violence need to navigate the criminal justice system and access support resources. Many survivors of violence are not aware of the help available to them and the types of services provided and so may not know who to turn to. Having someone reach out to them could increase access to services, meaning more survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence could be better supported.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

House Bill 4420 would increase state expenditures to DHHS by an indeterminate amount and would not have a significant fiscal impact on local units of government. The fiscal impact of the bill would be dependent on an increase in the number of crime victims eligible for supportive services provided by the state. Current funding for Crime Victims Services is \$121.6 million and is funded through the Crime Victim Grants Administration Services, Crime Victim Justice Assistance Grants, and Crime Victim Rights Services Grants lines.

## **POSITIONS:**

Representatives of the following entities testified in support of the bill (5-16-23):

- Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan
- Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention Treatment Board (5-16-23)
- Michigan Catholic Conference (5-23-23)
- State Bar of Michigan (5-23-23)
- Michigan Poverty Law Program (5-16-23)

Legislative Analyst: Susan Stutzky  
Fiscal Analyst: Sydney Brown

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