



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

**Raised Bill No. 361**

LCO No. 1847



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

**AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) Prior to sentencing a  
2 defendant convicted of a criminal offense for which a sentence of  
3 imprisonment may be imposed, the court shall permit the defendant to  
4 submit a family impact statement if the defendant is the parent or  
5 guardian of a minor child and has physical custody of the minor child.  
6 The court shall consider such family impact statement prior to  
7 pronouncing any sentence.

8 (b) A family impact statement submitted by a defendant pursuant to  
9 subsection (a) of this section may address the impact on the minor  
10 child and other family members that would result if the defendant is  
11 sentenced to a term of imprisonment, including, but not limited to, the  
12 impact on the financial needs of the child and other family members,  
13 the relationship between the defendant and the child, the availability  
14 of community and family support for the child, the defendant's  
15 employment history and available employment opportunities for the  
16 defendant. Such family impact statement may also include the

17 defendant's statement regarding the programs available to rehabilitate  
18 the defendant if the defendant is not sentenced to a term of  
19 imprisonment, the seriousness of the offense and the defendant's  
20 criminal history.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*