



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

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Testimony of the Judicial Branch
Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
March 16, 2018

H.B. 5040, An Act Concerning Adjudication of Certain
Young Adults in Juvenile Court

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch regarding H.B. 5040, *An Act Concerning Adjudication of Certain Young Adults in Juvenile Court*. The Judicial Branch does not have a position on this bill, but in conversations with the Governor's Office, we did raise a concern about the impact this proposal could have on victim's rights.

The bill as proposed would mean that crime victims in certain cases would not be eligible for compensation for authorized expenses related to attending court proceedings, since juvenile court cases are considered delinquency cases, not criminal cases. If the Committee chooses to address this concern, please find a suggested change to Section 27 of P.A. 17-99:

Sec. 27 of P.A. 17-99 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) The Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation commissioner may order the payment of compensation under sections 54-201 to [54-233] 54-218, inclusive, as amended by this act, for: (1) Expenses actually and reasonably incurred as a result of the personal injury or death of the victim, provided coverage for the cost of medical care and treatment of a crime victim who does not have medical insurance or who has exhausted coverage under applicable health insurance policies or Medicaid shall be ordered; (2) loss of

earning power as a result of total or partial incapacity of such victim; (3) pecuniary loss to the spouse or dependents of the deceased victim, provided the family qualifies for compensation as a result of murder or manslaughter of the victim; (4) pecuniary loss to an injured victim or the relatives or dependents of an injured victim or a deceased victim for attendance at court proceedings with respect to the criminal case or delinquency proceeding of the person or persons charged with committing the crime that resulted in the injury or death of the victim; [and] (5) loss of wages by any parent or guardian of a deceased victim, provided the amount paid under this subsection shall not exceed one week's net wage; and (6) any other loss, except as set forth in section 54-211, as amended by this act, resulting from the personal injury or death of the victim which the Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation commissioner, as the case may be, determines to be reasonable.

(b) Payment of compensation under sections 54-201 to ~~[54-233]~~ 54-218, inclusive, as amended by this act, may be made to a person who is a recipient of public assistance or state-administered general assistance for necessary and reasonable expenses related to injuries resulting from a crime and not provided for by the income assistance program in which such person is a participant. Unless required by federal law, no such payment shall be considered an asset for purposes of eligibility for such assistance.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.