Bill No.: HB-7349  
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING IDENTITY THEFT VICTIM ACCESS TO RECORDS.  
Vote Date: 4/10/2019  
Vote Action: Joint Favorable  
PH Date: 3/18/2019  
File No.: 786

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**SPONSORS OF BILL:**  
Judiciary Committee

**REASONS FOR BILL:**  
To enable identity theft victims to access records in the case of identity theft that would otherwise be unavailable to the victim in the case of a defendant accessing accelerated rehabilitation for the purpose of correcting erroneous information concerning the victim’s identity.

**RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**  
State of Connecticut Office of the Victim Advocate, State Victim Advocate Natasha M. Pierre, Esq testifies that she is in favor of this bill. She further states: Crime victims in Connecticut have a state constitutional right to information about the arrest, conviction, sentence, imprisonment and release of the accused. For many victims of identity theft, a defendant’s application for the pre-trial accelerated rehabilitation program impedes the victim’s ability to obtain information about the criminal case when the victim attempts to correct the damage done by the identity theft. I strongly urge the Committee’s favorable report of Raised House Bill No 7349.

State of Connecticut Sentencing Commission Executive Director Alex Tsarkov: This proposal was brought to the Commission by the Office of the Victim Advocate. The Commission then voted to accept it as part of its legislative package to the Judiciary Committee. Once a defendant makes an application for participation into the accelerated rehabilitation program, a victim of identity theft cannot obtain a copy of their complaint and police report for the purpose of providing it to an entity that maintain erroneous information concerning the victim’s identity. This proposal would fix this problem by allowing an identity theft victim to obtain a copy of these records. The bill would also allow the victim to submit their complaint and police report to the credit reporting agency, DMV or Social Security Administration to correct erroneous information.

Reported by: rJo Winch  
Date: May 6, 2019