



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 123

LCO No. 826



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

***AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE ADDRESS
CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 54-240 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (1) "Address confidentiality program" or "program" means the
5 program established pursuant to this chapter;

6 (2) "Agency" has the same meaning as "public agency" or "agency", as
7 provided in section 1-200;

8 (3) "Application assistant" means a person authorized by the
9 Secretary of the State to assist applicants in the completion of
10 applications for program participation;

11 (4) "Authorized personnel" means an employee in the office of the
12 Secretary of the State who has been designated by the Secretary of the
13 State, or an employee of an agency who has been designated by the chief

14 executive officer of such agency, to process and have access to records
15 pertaining to a program participant, including, but not limited to, voter
16 registration applications, voting records and marriage records;

17 (5) "Certification card" means a card issued by the Secretary of the
18 State pursuant to section 54-240d;

19 (6) "Confidential address" means a program participant's address or
20 addresses as listed on such participant's application for program
21 participation that are not to be disclosed, including such participant's
22 residential address in this state and work and school addresses in this
23 state, if any;

24 (7) "Family violence" has the same meaning as provided in section
25 46b-38a;

26 (8) "Injury or risk of injury to a child" means any act or conduct that
27 constitutes a violation of section 53-21;

28 (9) "Kidnapping" means any act that constitutes a violation of section
29 53a-92, 53a-92a, 53a-94 or 53a-94a;

30 [(9)] (10) "Law enforcement agency" means the office of the Attorney
31 General, the office of the Chief State's Attorney, the Division of State
32 Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public
33 Protection or any municipal police department;

34 [(10)] (11) "Marriage records" means an application for a marriage
35 license, an issued marriage license, a license certificate or other
36 documents related thereto;

37 [(11)] (12) "Program address" means the post office box number and
38 fictitious street address assigned to a program participant by the
39 Secretary of the State;

40 [(12)] (13) "Program participant" or "participant" means any person
41 certified by the Secretary of the State to participate in the address
42 confidentiality program;

43 [(13)] (14) "Record" has the same meaning as "public records or files"
44 as provided in section 1-200;

45 [(14)] (15) "Sexual assault" means any act that constitutes a violation
46 of section 53a-70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to
47 January 1, 2019, or section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or
48 53a-73a; [and]

49 [(15)] (16) "Stalking" means any act that constitutes a violation of
50 section 53a-181c, 53a-181d or 53a-181e; and

51 (17) "Trafficking in persons" means any act that constitutes a violation
52 of section 53a-192a.

53 Sec. 2. Section 54-240a of the general statutes is repealed and the
54 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

55 (a) There shall be an address confidentiality program established in
56 the office of the Secretary of the State to provide a substitute mailing
57 address for any person who wishes to keep such person's residential
58 address confidential because of safety concerns and (1) has been a victim
59 of (A) family violence, (B) injury or risk of injury to a child, (C)
60 kidnapping, (D) sexual assault, [or] (E) stalking, [and who wishes to
61 keep such person's residential address confidential because of safety
62 concerns] or (F) trafficking in persons, or (2) filed a petition or had a
63 petition filed on such person's behalf for the termination of parental
64 rights that was granted pursuant to section 45a-717.

65 (b) The Secretary of the State shall adopt regulations, in accordance
66 with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of this
67 chapter. Such regulations may include, but need not be limited to,
68 provisions for applications for participation in the address
69 confidentiality program, certification of program participants,
70 certification cancellation, agency use of program addresses, forwarding
71 of program participants' mail, voting by program participants and
72 recording of vital statistics for program participants.

73 Sec. 3. Section 54-240c of the general statutes is repealed and the
74 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

75 The Secretary of the State shall certify an applicant or the person on
76 whose behalf an application is made as a program participant if the
77 application is filed in the manner and on the application form prescribed
78 by the Secretary of the State and includes:

79 (1) A statement made under penalty of false statement, as provided
80 in section 53a-157b, that [(A)] the applicant or the person on whose
81 behalf the application is made (A) is a victim of (i) family violence, (ii)
82 injury or risk of injury to a minor, (iii) kidnapping, (iv) sexual assault,
83 [or] (v) stalking, or (vi) trafficking in persons, or (B) filed a petition or
84 had a petition filed on such applicant or person's behalf for the
85 termination of parental rights that was granted pursuant to section 45a-
86 717, and [(B)] (C) the applicant fears for the [applicant's safety, for the
87 safety of the applicant's children, for the safety of the person on whose
88 behalf the application is made, or for the] safety of the applicant, the
89 applicant's children, the person on whose behalf the application is made
90 or the children of the person on whose behalf the application is made;

91 (2) Documentation supporting the statement made pursuant to
92 subdivision (1) of this section;

93 (3) A designation of the Secretary of the State as the agent of the
94 applicant or the person on whose behalf the application is made for
95 service of process and for receipt of first class mail;

96 (4) The residential address in this state, the work and school
97 addresses in this state, if any, and the phone number or numbers, if
98 available, that are to remain confidential, but which may be used by the
99 Secretary of the State or authorized personnel to contact the applicant
100 or the person on whose behalf the application is made; and

101 (5) The application preparation date, the applicant's signature and the
102 signature of the application assistant who assisted the applicant in
103 completing the application.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	54-240
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	54-240a
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	54-240c

Statement of Purpose:

To permit victims of kidnapping and human trafficking and children who are the subject of petitions to terminate parental rights granted by the court to participate in the address confidentiality program established in the office of the Secretary of the State.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]