This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Council without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

## Act No. 44 (H.74). Crimes and criminal procedures; domestic relations

## An act relating to domestic and sexual violence

This act addresses a number of issues related to domestic and sexual violence, including:

- Creates the misdemeanor crime of prohibited conduct of open and gross lewdness
- Creates a "Bill of Rights for Sexual Assault Survivors"
- Eliminates the statute of limitations for sexual assault and child pornography, which had previously been six years for both
- Eliminates the ability of a defendant to modify a parental rights and responsibilities order in cases involving a child who was conceived as a result of a sexual assault
- Tweaks the language for emergency and final domestic abuse protection orders to allow a court comprehensively to prohibit a defendant from contacting a plaintiff in any way, whether directly or indirectly, and through any method

Multiple effective dates, beginning on May 23, 2017