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**House Judiciary Committee**  
**H. 284 - An act relating to data collection in the criminal justice system**  
**Chris Fenno, Executive Director**  
**January 9, 2020**

The Vermont Center for Crime Victims Services (VCCVS), which acts as the voice within government for the needs of victims, has been asked to testify regarding H. 284 - An act relating to data collection in the criminal justice system. In lieu of testifying in person, I would like to submit the following information to the House Judiciary Committee.

I have had an opportunity to review the bill. The purpose of the bill states:

This bill proposes to require the Judiciary, *the Center for Crime Victim Services*, the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, and the Department of Corrections to collect and publicly post criminal justice data.

In Section 3 of H.284, the statutes are amended related to the "Center", which refers to the *Vermont Crime Information Center*, not the Vermont Center for Crime Victims Services.

In light of this, and while we believe that this bill is worthy of consideration and can provide valuable information to our state agencies and the Legislature, H.284 does not directly impact our organization. VCCVS does not collect, have access to, or want the criminal activity, arrests, convictions of offenders in relation to the victim data collected.

We would ask that the purpose of the bill be amended to reflect the appropriate "Center" to be consistent with the text of the bill.

Thank you very much. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

