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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 Counsel 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.

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**Act No. 104 (H.399). Criminal procedure; sentencing alternatives; family circumstances**

**An act relating to incarceration terms for criminal defendants who are primary caretakers of dependent children**

This act is aimed to prevent unnecessary harm and ensure fair and compassionate treatment of children whose parents, guardians, caretakers, or family members are subject to sentencing for conviction of a crime. The statutory changes to sentencing require criminal courts to consider a defendant's family circumstances, relationships, and the impact of any sentence upon the defendant's minor children. Any presentence investigation report must also contain information concerning these circumstances and relationships.

Effective Date: July 1, 2022