

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on General and Housing to which was referred House Bill  
3 No. 887 entitled “An act relating to crime victim status under the Fair  
4 Employment Practices Act” respectfully reports that it has considered the same  
5 and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting  
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 495d is amended to read:

8 § 495d. DEFINITIONS

9 As used in this subchapter:

10 \* \* \*

11 (15) “Crime victim” means any of the following:

12 (A) a person who has obtained a relief from abuse order issued under  
13 15 V.S.A. § 1103;

14 (B) a person who has obtained an order against stalking or sexual  
15 assault issued under 12 V.S.A. chapter 178;

16 (C) a person who has obtained an order against abuse of a vulnerable  
17 adult issued under 33 V.S.A. chapter 69; ~~or~~

18 (D)(i) a victim as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 5301, provided that the  
19 victim is identified as a crime victim in an affidavit filed by a law enforcement  
20 official with a prosecuting attorney of competent state or federal jurisdiction;  
21 and

1 (ii) shall include the victim’s child, foster child, parent, spouse,  
2 stepchild or ward of the victim who lives with the victim, or a parent of the  
3 victim’s spouse, provided that the individual is not identified in the affidavit as  
4 the defendant; or

5 (E) a person who is a survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault,  
6 or stalking and who has supporting documentation from any one of the  
7 following sources:

8 (i) a court or law enforcement or other government agency;

9 (ii) a domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking assistance  
10 program;

11 (iii) a legal, clerical, medical, or other professional from whom the  
12 person has received counseling or other assistance concerning domestic  
13 violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or

14 (iv) a self-attestation by the person describing the circumstances  
15 supporting the person’s status as a survivor of domestic violence, sexual  
16 assault, and stalking for which no further corroboration shall be required unless  
17 otherwise mandated by law.

18 \* \* \*

19 (18) “Domestic violence” has the same meaning as in 15 V.S.A. § 1151  
20 and includes the definition of “abuse” in 15 V.S.A. § 1101.

1           (19) “Sexual assault” has the same meaning as in 12 V.S.A. § 5131.

2           (20) “Stalking” has the same meaning as in 12 V.S.A. § 5131.

3       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4           This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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18           (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE