1	CRIME VICTIM AMENDMENTS
2	2024 GENERAL SESSION
3	STATE OF UTAH
4	Chief Sponsor: Tyler Clancy
5	Senate Sponsor: Michael K. McKell
6 7	LONG TITLE
8	
	General Description:
9	This bill amends provisions related to victims of crime.
10	Highlighted Provisions:
11	This bill:
12	defines terms;
13	 requires the Utah Office for Victims of Crime to provide a law enforcement agency
14	with educational materials regarding sexual assault victims;
15	 amends the duties of the Utah Council on Victims of Crime;
16	 creates a victim rights committee in each judicial district of the state;
17	 establishes the membership of a victim rights committee;
18	• requires the executive director of the State Commission on Criminal and Juvenile
19	Justice to appoint a committee coordinator;
20	 provides the duties of the committee coordinator;
21	 creates a process for submitting a complaint alleging a violation of a victim's right;
22	clarifies the relief that a victim may seek from a court for a violation of a victim's
23	right;
24	 clarifies that a defendant may not seek relief from a court for a violation of victim's
25	rights;



20	repeals a statute on district victims rights committees; and
27	 makes technical and conforming changes.
28	Money Appropriated in this Bill:
29	None
30	Other Special Clauses:
31	None
32	Utah Code Sections Affected:
33	AMENDS:
34	63M-7-502, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 148, 185 and 430
35	63M-7-603, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 172
36	77-38-11, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 331
37	ENACTS:
38	63M-7-506.5 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
39	63M-7-1001, Utah Code Annotated 1953
40	63M-7-1002 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
41	63M-7-1003, Utah Code Annotated 1953
42	63M-7-1004, Utah Code Annotated 1953
43	REPEALS:
44 45	77-37-5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 237
45 46	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
47	Section 1. Section 63M-7-502 is amended to read:
48	63M-7-502. Definitions.
49	As used in this part:
50	(1) "Accomplice" means an individual who has engaged in criminal conduct as
51	described in Section 76-2-202.
52	(2) "Advocacy services provider" means the same as that term is defined in Section
53	77-38-403.
54	(3) "Board" means the Crime Victim Reparations and Assistance Board created under
55	Section 63M-7-504.
56	(4) "Bodily injury" means physical pain, illness, or any impairment of physical

57	condition.
58	(5) "Claimant" means any of the following claiming reparations under this part:
59	(a) a victim;
60	(b) a dependent of a deceased victim; or
61	(c) an individual or representative who files a reparations claim on behalf of a victim.
62	(6) "Child" means an unemancipated individual who is under 18 years old.
63	(7) "Collateral source" means any source of benefits or advantages for economic loss
64	otherwise reparable under this part that the victim or claimant has received, or that is readily
65	available to the victim from:
66	(a) the offender;
67	(b) the insurance of the offender or the victim;
68	(c) the United States government or any of its agencies, a state or any of its political
69	subdivisions, or an instrumentality of two or more states, except in the case on nonobligatory
70	state-funded programs;
71	(d) social security, Medicare, and Medicaid;
72	(e) state-required temporary nonoccupational income replacement insurance or
73	disability income insurance;
74	(f) workers' compensation;
75	(g) wage continuation programs of any employer;
76	(h) proceeds of a contract of insurance payable to the victim for the loss the victim
77	sustained because of the criminally injurious conduct;
78	(i) a contract providing prepaid hospital and other health care services or benefits for
79	disability; or
80	(j) veteran's benefits, including veteran's hospitalization benefits.
81	(8) "Criminal justice system victim advocate" means the same as that term is defined it
82	Section 77-38-403.
83	(9) (a) "Criminally injurious conduct" other than acts of war declared or not declared
84	means conduct that:
85	(i) is or would be subject to prosecution in this state under Section 76-1-201;
86	(ii) occurs or is attempted;
87	(iii) causes, or poses a substantial threat of causing, bodily injury or death:

- 88 (iv) is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or death if the individual engaging in the 89 conduct possessed the capacity to commit the conduct; and 90 (v) does not arise out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle. 91 aircraft, or water craft, unless the conduct is: 92 (A) intended to cause bodily injury or death; (B) punishable under Title 76, Chapter 5, Offenses Against the Individual; or 93 94 (C) chargeable as an offense for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. 95 (b) "Criminally injurious conduct" includes a felony violation of Section 76-7-101 and 96 other conduct leading to the psychological injury of an individual resulting from living in a setting that involves a bigamous relationship. 97 98 (10) (a) "Dependent" means a natural person to whom the victim is wholly or partially 99 legally responsible for care or support. 100 (b) "Dependent" includes a child of the victim born after the victim's death. (11) "Dependent's economic loss" means loss after the victim's death of contributions 101 102 of things of economic value to the victim's dependent, not including services the dependent 103 would have received from the victim if the victim had not suffered the fatal injury, less 104 expenses of the dependent avoided by reason of victim's death. (12) "Dependent's replacement services loss" means loss reasonably and necessarily 105 106 incurred by the dependent after the victim's death in obtaining services in lieu of those the 107 decedent would have performed for the victim's benefit if the victim had not suffered the fatal 108 injury, less expenses of the dependent avoided by reason of the victim's death and not 109 subtracted in calculating the dependent's economic loss. 110 (13) "Director" means the director of the office. 111 (14) "Disposition" means the sentencing or determination of penalty or punishment to 112 be imposed upon an individual: 113 (a) convicted of a crime;
 - (b) found delinquent; or

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- 115 (c) against whom a finding of sufficient facts for conviction or finding of delinquency 116 is made.
- 117 (15) (a) "Economic loss" means economic detriment consisting only of allowable 118 expense, work loss, replacement services loss, and if injury causes death, dependent's economic

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119	loss and dependent's replacement service loss.
120	(b) "Economic loss" includes economic detriment even if caused by pain and suffering
121	or physical impairment.
122	(c) "Economic loss" does not include noneconomic detriment.
123	(16) "Elderly victim" means an individual who is 60 years old or older and who is a
124	victim.
125	(17) "Fraudulent claim" means a filed reparations based on material misrepresentation
126	of fact and intended to deceive the reparations staff for the purpose of obtaining reparation
127	funds for which the claimant is not eligible.
128	(18) "Fund" means the Crime Victim Reparations Fund created in Section 63M-7-526.
129	(19) (a) "Interpersonal violence" means an act involving violence, physical harm, or a
130	threat of violence or physical harm, that is committed by an individual who is or has been in a
131	domestic, dating, sexual, or intimate relationship with the victim.
132	(b) "Interpersonal violence" includes any attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation of an act
133	described in Subsection (19)(a).
134	(20) "Law enforcement agency" means a public or private agency having general police
135	power and charged with making arrests in connection with enforcement of the criminal statutes
136	and ordinances of this state or any political subdivision of this state.
137	[(20)] (21) "Law enforcement officer" means the same as that term is defined in
138	Section 53-13-103.
139	[(21)] (22) (a) "Medical examination" means a physical examination necessary to
140	document criminally injurious conduct.
141	(b) "Medical examination" does not include mental health evaluations for the
142	prosecution and investigation of a crime.
143	[(22)] (23) "Mental health counseling" means outpatient and inpatient counseling
144	necessitated as a result of criminally injurious conduct, is subject to rules made by the board in
145	accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

[(23)] (24) "Misconduct" means conduct by the victim that was attributable to the injury or death of the victim as provided by rules made by the board in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

[(24)] (25) "Noneconomic detriment" means pain, suffering, inconvenience, physical

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150 impairment, and other nonpecuniary damage, except as provided in this part. [(25)] (26) "Nongovernment organization victim advocate" means the same as that 151 152 term is defined in Section 77-38-403. 153 [(26)] (27) "Pecuniary loss" does not include loss attributable to pain and suffering 154 except as otherwise provided in this part. [(27)] (28) "Offender" means an individual who has violated Title 76, Utah Criminal 155 Code, through criminally injurious conduct regardless of whether the individual is arrested, 156 157 prosecuted, or convicted. 158 [(28)] (29) "Offense" means a violation of Title 76, Utah Criminal Code. 159 [(29)] (30) "Office" means the director, the reparations and assistance officers, and any 160 other staff employed for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this part. 161 [(30)] (31) "Perpetrator" means the individual who actually participated in the 162 criminally injurious conduct. [(31)] (32) "Reparations award" means money or other benefits provided to a claimant 163 164 or to another on behalf of a claimant after the day on which a reparations claim is approved by 165 the office. 166 [(32)] (33) "Reparations claim" means a claimant's request or application made to the 167 office for a reparations award. 168 [(33)] (34) (a) "Reparations officer" means an individual employed by the office to 169 investigate claims of victims and award reparations under this part. 170 (b) "Reparations officer" includes the director when the director is acting as a 171 reparations officer. 172 [(34)] (35) "Replacement service loss" means expenses reasonably and necessarily 173 incurred in obtaining ordinary and necessary services in lieu of those the injured individual 174 would have performed, not for income but the benefit of the injured individual or the injured 175 individual's dependents if the injured individual had not been injured. 176 [(35)] (36) (a) "Representative" means the victim, immediate family member, legal 177 guardian, attorney, conservator, executor, or an heir of an individual. 178 (b) "Representative" does not include a service provider or collateral source. [(36)] (37) "Restitution" means the same as that term is defined in Section 77-38b-102. 179

[(37)] (38) "Secondary victim" means an individual who is traumatically affected by

181	the criminally injurious conduct subject to rules made by the board in accordance with Title
182	63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.
183	[(38)] (39) "Service provider" means an individual or agency who provides a service to
184	a victim for a monetary fee, except attorneys as provided in Section 63M-7-524.
185	[(39)] (40) "Serious bodily injury" means the same as that term is defined in Section
186	76-1-101.5.
187	[(40)] (41) "Sexual assault" means any criminal conduct described in Title 76, Chapter
188	5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses.
189	[(41)] (42) "Strangulation" means any act involving the use of unlawful force or
190	violence that:
191	(a) impedes breathing or the circulation of blood; and
192	(b) is likely to produce a loss of consciousness by:
193	(i) applying pressure to the neck or throat of an individual; or
194	(ii) obstructing the nose, mouth, or airway of an individual.
195	[(42)] (43) "Substantial bodily injury" means the same as that term is defined in
196	Section 76-1-101.5.
197	[(43)] (44) (a) "Victim" means an individual who suffers bodily or psychological injury
198	or death as a direct result of:
199	(i) criminally injurious conduct; or
200	(ii) the production of pornography in violation of Section 76-5b-201 or 76-5b-201.1 if
201	the individual is a minor.
202	(b) "Victim" does not include an individual who participated in or observed the judicial
203	proceedings against an offender unless otherwise provided by statute or rule made in
204	accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.
205	[(44)] (45) "Work loss" means loss of income from work the injured victim would
206	have performed if the injured victim had not been injured and expenses reasonably incurred by
207	the injured victim in obtaining services in lieu of those the injured victim would have
208	performed for income, reduced by any income from substitute work the injured victim was
209	capable of performing but unreasonably failed to undertake.
210	Section 2. Section 63M-7-506.5 is enacted to read:
211	<u>63M-7-506.5.</u> Duties of the office.

212	The office shall provide educational materials to a law enforcement agency to assist the
213	law enforcement agency with informing a victim of a sexual assault of the victim's right to
214	request testing of the victim and of the offender alleged to have committed the sexual assault as
215	described in Section 53-10-802.
216	Section 3. Section 63M-7-603 is amended to read:
217	63M-7-603. Duties of the council.
218	(1) The council shall:
219	(a) make recommendations to the Legislature, the governor, and the Judicial Council
220	on the following:
221	(i) enforcing existing rights of victims of crime;
222	(ii) enhancing rights of victims of crime;
223	(iii) the role of victims of crime in the criminal justice system;
224	(iv) victim restitution;
225	(v) educating and training criminal justice professionals on the rights of victims of
226	crime; and
227	(vi) enhancing services to victims of crimes; and
228	(b) provide training on the rights of victims of crime[; and].
229	[(c) establish a subcommittee to consider complaints not resolved by the Victims'
230	Rights Committee established in Section 77-37-5.
231	(2) The council:
232	(a) shall advocate the adoption, repeal, or modification of laws or proposed legislation
233	in the interest of victims of crime;
234	(b) subject to court rules and the governor's approval, may advocate in appellate courts
235	on behalf of a victim of crime as described in Subsection 77-38-11(2)(a)(ii); and
236	(c) may establish additional subcommittees to assist in accomplishing its duties[; and].
237	[(d) shall select and appoint individuals in accordance with Section 77-37-5 to act as
238	chairpersons of the judicial district victims' rights committees and provide assistance to the
239	committees in their operations.]
240	Section 4. Section 63M-7-1001 is enacted to read:
241	Part 10. Victim Rights Committees
242	63M-7-1001 Definitions

243	As used in this part:
244	(1) "Committee" means a victim rights committee established in each judicial district
245	as described in Section 63M-7-1002.
246	(2) "Victim Services Commission" means the Utah Victim Services Commission
247	established in Section 63M-7-902.
248	(3) (a) "Criminal justice agency" means an agency that is directly involved in the
249	apprehension, prosecution, incarceration, or supervision of an individual involved in criminal
250	conduct.
251	(b) "Criminal justice agency" includes:
252	(i) a law enforcement agency as defined in Section 63M-7-502;
253	(ii) a prosecuting agency;
254	(iii) the Department of Corrections created in Section 64-13-2; or
255	(iv) the Board of Pardons and Parole created in Section 77-27-2.
256	(4) "Member" means an individual appointed to a committee.
257	(5) "Representative of a victim" means the same as that term is defined in Section
258	<u>77-38-2.</u>
259	(6) (a) "Victim" means an individual against whom criminal conduct has allegedly
260	been committed.
261	(b) "Victim" does not include an individual who is an accomplice or codefendant to
262	<u>criminal conduct.</u>
263	(7) "Victim advocate" means the same as that term is defined in Section 77-37-403.
264	(8) "Victim's rights" means the rights afforded to a victim under Title 77, Chapter 37,
265	Victims' Rights, Title 77, Chapter 38, Crime Victims, and Utah Constitution, Article I, Section
266	<u>28.</u>
267	Section 5. Section 63M-7-1002 is enacted to read:
268	63M-7-1002. Victim rights committee for each judicial district Members
269	Terms.
270	(1) There is created a victim rights committee in each judicial district of this state.
271	(2) The Victim Services Commission shall appoint a chair to serve on each committee.
272	(3) The chair shall appoint, with the Victim Services Commission's consent, the
273	following individuals to serve on each committee:

274	(a) a county or district attorney within the judicial district, or the county or district
275	attorney's designee;
276	(b) a municipal attorney within the judicial district, or the municipal attorney's
277	designee;
278	(c) a sheriff within the judicial district, or the sheriff's designee;
279	(d) a chief of police within the judicial district, or the chief of police's designee;
280	(e) a representative of the Division of Adult Probation and Parole within the
281	Department of Corrections;
282	(f) a victim advocate; and
283	(g) any other representative as appropriate.
284	(4) A member is:
285	(a) appointed to serve a four-year term; and
286	(b) eligible for reappointment.
287	(5) When a vacancy occurs in the membership of a committee for any reason, the
288	replacement shall be appointed for the remainder of the unexpired term.
289	(6) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but
290	a member may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
291	(a) Section 63A-3-106;
292	(b) Section 63A-3-107; and
293	(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and
294	<u>63A-3-107.</u>
295	Section 6. Section 63M-7-1003 is enacted to read:
296	63M-7-1003. Committee coordinator Duties.
297	(1) The executive director of the commission shall appoint an individual to serve as the
298	committee coordinator.
299	(2) The committee coordinator shall:
300	(a) provide administrative assistance to each committee;
301	(b) schedule meetings for each committee; and
302	(c) receive and process complaints as described in Section 63M-7-1004.
303	Section 7. Section 63M-7-1004 is enacted to read:
304	63M-7-1004. Complaint of violation of victim rights Criminal justice agency

305	policy about complaints.
306	(1) When the committee coordinator receives a complaint, the committee coordinator
307	shall review the complaint to determine whether the complaint alleges a violation of a victim's
308	<u>rights.</u>
309	(2) (a) If the complaint does not allege a violation of a victim's rights, the committee
310	coordinator shall send a letter to the victim, or the representative of a victim:
311	(i) explaining that the committee may only address a violation of the victim's rights;
312	<u>and</u>
313	(ii) describing any other resources that may be available to the victim or the
314	representative of the victim.
315	(b) The committee coordinator shall send the letter described in Subsection (2)(a)
316	within 30 days after the day on which the committee coordinator receives the complaint.
317	(3) If the complaint does allege a violation of a victim's rights, the committee
318	coordinator shall forward:
319	(a) the complaint to the committee of the judicial district where the violation allegedly
320	occurred; and
321	(b) a copy of the complaint to the person that is the subject of the complaint.
322	(4) The committee coordinator shall schedule a meeting for the committee to review
323	the complaint as soon as practicable.
324	(5) If a criminal justice agency investigates a complaint regarding a violation of a
325	victim's rights and the committee receives a complaint about the same violation, the criminal
326	justice agency shall provide the criminal justice agency's investigative findings related to the
327	complaint to the committee.
328	(6) After reviewing the complaint and any findings submitted by a criminal justice
329	agency under Subsection (5), the committee may:
330	(a) inform the person of a victim's rights and the obligations required by law;
331	(b) refer the victim, or the representative of a victim, to other resources in the
332	community; or
333	(c) inform the victim, or the representative of a victim, of the victim's rights and
334	remedies described in Title 77, Chapter 37, Victims' Rights, Title 77, Chapter 38, Crime
335	Victims and Utah Constitution Article I Section 28

336	(7) Within 30 days after the day on which the committee meeting is held, the chair of
337	the committee shall send a letter to the victim, or the representative of a victim, describing any
338	action taken by the committee.
339	(8) A criminal justice agency shall establish a policy for addressing a complaint
340	alleging a violation of a victim's rights.
341	Section 8. Section 77-38-11 is amended to read:
342	77-38-11. Enforcement Appellate review No right to money damages.
343	(1) If a person acting under color of state law allegedly violates the rights of a victim
344	described in this chapter, Chapter 37, Victims' Rights, or Utah Constitution, Article I, Section
345	28, the victim, or a representative of a victim, may file a complaint with a victim rights
346	committee as described in Section 63M-7-1004.
347	[(1)] (2) If a person acting under color of state law willfully or wantonly fails to
348	perform duties so that the rights in this chapter are not provided, an action for injunctive relief,
349	including prospective injunctive relief, may be brought against the individual and the
350	governmental entity that employs the individual.
351	[(2)] (3) (a) The victim of a crime or representative of a victim of a crime[, including
352	any Victims' Rights Committee as defined in Section 77-37-5] may:
353	(i) bring an action for declaratory relief or for a writ of mandamus defining or
354	enforcing the rights of victims and the obligations of government entities under this chapter;
355	(ii) petition to file an amicus brief in any court in any case affecting crime victims; and
356	(iii) after giving notice to the prosecution and the defense, seek an appropriate remedy
357	for a violation of a victim's right from the [judge] court assigned to the case involving the issue
358	[as provided in Section 77-38-11].
359	(b) Adverse rulings on these actions or on a motion or request brought by a victim of a
360	crime or a representative of a victim of a crime may be appealed under the rules governing
361	appellate actions, provided that an appeal may not constitute grounds for delaying any criminal
362	or juvenile proceeding.
363	(c) An appellate court shall review all properly presented issues, including issues that
364	are capable of repetition but would otherwise evade review.
365	$[\frac{(3)}{4}]$ (a) Upon a showing that the victim has not unduly delayed in seeking to
366	protect the victim's right, and after hearing from the prosecution and the defense, the [judge]

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367	court shall determine whether a right of the victim has been violated.
368	(b) If the [judge] court determines that a victim's right has been violated, the [judge
369	shall proceed to] the court shall:
370	(i) determine the appropriate remedy for the violation of the victim's right by hearing
371	from the victim and the parties[;] and considering all factors relevant to the issue[, and then
372	awarding]; and
373	(ii) award an appropriate remedy to the victim.
374	(5) (a) The court shall:
375	(i) reconsider any judicial decision or judgment affected by a violation of the victim's
376	right; and
377	(ii) [determine whether,] upon affording the victim the right and further hearing from
378	the prosecution and the defense, determine whether the decision or judgment would have been
379	different.
380	(b) If the court's decision or judgment would have been different, the court shall enter
381	the new different decision or judgment as the appropriate remedy.
382	(c) If necessary to protect the victim's right, [the new decision or judgment shall be
383	entered] the court shall enter the new decision or judgment nunc pro tunc to the time the first
384	decision or judgment was reached.
385	(d) In no event shall the appropriate remedy be a new trial, damages, attorney fees, or
386	costs.
387	[(c)] (6) (a) The appropriate remedy under Subsection (4) or (5) shall include only
388	actions necessary to provide the victim the right to which the victim was entitled [and].
389	(b) The appropriate remedy under Subsection (4) or (5) may include reopening
390	previously held proceedings.
391	(7) (a) Subject to Subsection $[(3)(d)]$ $(7)(c)$, the court may reopen a sentence or a
392	previously entered guilty or no contest plea only if [doing so] reopening the sentence or plea:
393	(i) would not preclude continued prosecution or sentencing the defendant; and
394	(ii) would not otherwise permit the defendant to escape justice.
395	(b) [Any remedy shall be tailored] The court shall tailor a remedy to provide the victim
396	with an appropriate remedy without violating any constitutional right of the defendant.
397	[(d)] (c) If the court sets aside a previously entered plea of guilty or no contest, and

This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.

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398	[thereafter] the continued prosecution of the charge is held to be prevented by the defendant's
399	having been previously put in jeopardy, the order setting aside the plea is void and the plea is
400	reinstated as of the date of [its] the plea's original entry.
401	[(e)] (d) The court may not award as a remedy the dismissal of any criminal charge.
402	[(f)] (e) The court may not award any remedy if the proceeding that the victim is
403	challenging occurred more than 90 days before the day on which the victim filed an action
404	alleging the violation of the right.
405	[(4)] (8) The failure to provide the rights in this chapter or [Title 77, Chapter 37,
406	Victims' Rights] Chapter 37, Victims' Rights, shall not constitute cause for a judgment against
407	the state or any government entity, or any individual employed by the state or any government
408	entity, for monetary damages, attorney fees, or the costs of exercising any rights under this
409	chapter.
410	(9) A defendant convicted of an offense may not bring an action or complaint
411	concerning a violation of this chapter or Chapter 37, Victims' Rights.
412	Section 9. Repealer.
413	This bill repeals:
414	Section 77-37-5, Remedies District Victims' Rights Committee.
415	Section 10. Effective date.