

# Committee on Children JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-123  
AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY  
**Title:** PROGRAM.  
**Vote Date:** 3/15/2022  
**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute  
**PH Date:** 2/22/2022  
**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL**

Committee on Children

## **COSPONSORS OF BILL:**

Rep. Jaime S. Foster  
Rep. Michael A. Winkler  
Sen. Saud Anwar

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

The purpose of S.B. 123 is to protect victims of kidnapping, human trafficking, and children who are the subject of petitions to terminate parental rights by granting them the ability to participate in the address confidentiality program previously established by the office of the Secretary of the State. This bill would make it more difficult for perpetrators to locate their victim, improving the safety and security of the child. By not being able to simply look up the address of a child that has fallen victim to kidnapping, human trafficking, or TPR, a barrier is put into place to make it more challenging to locate them or reoffend and empowering survivors to live freer, fuller lives.

Substitute language lists the eligible safety concerns for the individuals who wish to join the program, inserting "kidnapping...stalking...trafficking in persons or child abuse or neglect substantiated by DCF, or filed a petition or had a petition filed on such person's behalf for the termination of parental rights."

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

Lucy Nolan, Director of Policy and Public Relations for Alliance to End Sexual Violence, supports the section of the bill that adds victims of trafficking to the list of individuals on the address confidentiality program, but does not support the inclusion of kidnapping or people that filed for the termination of parental rights or had the termination of parental rights filed on them, because the Alliance is concerned that this could cause unintended harm to the victims.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed.

**Reported by: Molly Lukiwsky, Jean Rienzo**

**Date: 3/21/2022**