



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5210

LCO No. 1646



Referred to Committee on AGING

Introduced by:
(AGE)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ELDER JUSTICE UNIT IN THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 51-279 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2024*):

4 (a) The Chief State's Attorney, with the advice of the Division of
5 Criminal Justice Advisory Board under section 51-279a, shall
6 administer, direct, supervise, coordinate and control the operations,
7 activities and programs of the division as it shall apply to the Superior
8 Court. [He] The Chief State's Attorney shall: (1) Establish such bureaus,
9 divisions, facilities and offices, including an appellate unit, a
10 racketeering and continuing criminal activities unit, [and] a bond
11 forfeiture unit and an elder justice unit, and select such professional,
12 technical and other personnel, including chief inspectors, as [he] the
13 Chief State's Attorney deems reasonably necessary for the efficient
14 operation and discharge of the duties of the division, subject to the
15 personnel policies and compensation plan established by the

16 Department of Administrative Services; (2) adopt and enforce rules and
17 regulations to carry out the purposes of this chapter; (3) establish
18 guidelines, policies and procedures for the internal operation and
19 administration of the division which shall be binding on all division
20 personnel; (4) enter into contracts with consultants and such other
21 persons as are necessary for the proper functioning of the office; (5)
22 engage in long-range planning and review policy and legislation
23 concerning the administration of criminal justice in the state and
24 recommend needed changes and additions thereto; (6) collect statistical
25 data concerning administration of criminal justice in the state and
26 furnish the data to the appropriate committee of the General Assembly;
27 (7) conduct research and evaluate programs within his office; (8)
28 establish staff development, training and education programs designed
29 to improve the quality of the division's services and programs; (9)
30 coordinate the activities of the division with those of such other state,
31 municipal, regional, federal and private agencies as are concerned with
32 the administration of criminal justice; (10) be authorized to receive and
33 administer funds from the federal government or any charitable
34 foundation to assist in the operations of the division; (11) supervise,
35 approve and issue all orders concerning all purchases of commodities,
36 equipment and services for the Division of Criminal Justice; (12)
37 supervise the administrative methods and systems employed in the
38 Division of Criminal Justice; (13) submit to the Department of
39 Administrative Services for its approval a compensation plan for all
40 employees of the division, which plan may include sick leave, vacation
41 leave, absences without pay, longevity payments, increments and all
42 other matters regarding personnel policies and procedures; (14)
43 establish with the approval of the Department of Administrative
44 Services such job classifications as [he] the Chief State's Attorney deems
45 necessary for the operation of the division; (15) audit bills to be paid
46 from state appropriations for the expenses of the Division of Criminal
47 Justice; (16) maintain adequate accounting and budgetary records for all
48 appropriations by the state for the maintenance of the Division of
49 Criminal Justice and all other appropriations assigned by the legislature
50 or state budgetary control offices for administration by the Division of

51 Criminal Justice; (17) serve as payroll officer for the Division of Criminal
52 Justice; and (18) have such other powers and duties as are reasonably
53 necessary to administer the division and implement the purposes of this
54 chapter. [He] The Chief State's Attorney shall prepare and submit to the
55 Office of Policy and Management estimates of appropriations necessary
56 for the maintenance of the division and make recommendations with
57 respect thereto for inclusion as a separate item in the budget request of
58 the Division of Criminal Justice.

59 Sec. 2. Section 51-279b of the general statutes is repealed and the
60 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

61 (a) The Chief State's Attorney shall establish a racketeering and
62 continuing criminal activities unit within the Division of Criminal
63 Justice. Such unit shall be available for the investigation and prosecution
64 of criminal matters including, but not limited to, the illegal purchase and
65 sale of controlled substances, criminal activity by gangs, fraud,
66 corruption, illegal gambling and the recruitment of persons to carry out
67 such illegal activities.

68 (b) The Chief State's Attorney shall establish a bond forfeiture unit
69 within the Division of Criminal Justice. Such unit shall be responsible
70 for the collection, in the name of the state, and by suit when necessary,
71 of all forfeited bonds payable to the state. Such unit may compromise
72 and settle forfeited bonds for less than the amount thereof without
73 regard to the expiration of any stay of forfeiture.

74 (c) The Chief State's Attorney shall develop uniform standards for the
75 compromise and settlement of forfeited bonds. Such standards shall be
76 applied on a state-wide basis.

77 (d) The Chief State's Attorney shall establish an elder justice unit
78 within the Division of Criminal Justice. Such unit shall be available for
79 the investigation and prosecution of criminal matters that involve
80 criminal activity against elderly persons.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	51-279(a)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	51-279b

Statement of Purpose:

To establish an elder justice unit in the Division of Criminal Justice.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]