

AN ACT concerning criminal law.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act is amended by changing Section 6 as follows:

(725 ILCS 120/6) (from Ch. 38, par. 1406)

Sec. 6. Rights to present victim impact statement.

(a) In any case where a defendant has been convicted of a violent crime or a juvenile has been adjudicated a delinquent for a violent crime ~~except those in which both parties have agreed to the imposition of a specific sentence,~~ and a victim of the violent crime or the victim's spouse, guardian, parent, grandparent, or other immediate family or household member is present in the courtroom at the time of the sentencing or the disposition hearing, the victim or his or her representative shall have the right and the victim's spouse, guardian, parent, grandparent, and ~~or~~ other immediate family or household member upon his, her, or their request may be permitted by the court to address the court regarding the impact that the defendant's criminal conduct or the juvenile's delinquent conduct has had upon them and the victim. The court has discretion to determine the number of oral presentations of victim impact statements. Any impact statement must have been prepared in writing in conjunction with the Office of the State's Attorney prior to the initial hearing or sentencing, before it can be presented orally or in writing at the sentencing hearing. In conjunction with the Office of the State's Attorney, a victim impact statement that is presented orally may be done so by the victim or the victim's spouse, guardian, parent, grandparent, or other immediate family or household member or his, her, or their representative. At the sentencing hearing, the prosecution may introduce that evidence either in its case in chief or in

rebuttal. The court shall consider any impact statement admitted along with all other appropriate factors in determining the sentence of the defendant or disposition of such juvenile.

(b) The crime victim has the right to prepare a victim impact statement and present it to the Office of the State's Attorney at any time during the proceedings. Any written victim impact statement submitted to the Office of the State's Attorney shall be considered by the court during its consideration of aggravation and mitigation in plea proceedings under Supreme Court Rule 402.

(c) This Section shall apply to any victims of a violent crime during any dispositional hearing under Section 5-705 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 which takes place pursuant to an adjudication of delinquency for any such offense.

(Source: P.A. 91-693, eff. 4-13-00; 92-412, eff. 1-1-02.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.