

HB22-1288 "SAFE REPORTING FOR SEX WORKERS"

CONCERNING INCREASING ACCESS TO ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS BY PROVIDING IMMUNITY FROM PROSECUTION FOR THE OFFENSE OF PROSTITUTION IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

Victims of, or witnesses to, violent crimes are granted immunity from being charged for prostitution offenses when reporting specific crimes.

The bill does not prevent a DA from prosecuting any other crime committed concurrently to offenses for which immunity was granted.

WHY THIS BILL IS NEEDED:

- Colorado is currently experiencing a rise in violent crime that is outpacing the US average.
- Without immunity, some victims are less likely to seek the care or protections they need.
- Fear of reporting allows dangerous criminals to perpetrate crimes.
- Lack of reporting places law enforcement at a disadvantage in their efforts to identify and prosecute violent criminals.

IMMUNITY

- Prostitution (18-7-201)
- Soliciting for prostitution (18-7-202)
- Prostitute making display (18-7-207)

WITNESSED OFFENSES

- Murder: 1st or 2nd
- Manslaughter
- Homicide: criminally negligent or vehicular
- Assault: 1st, 2nd or 3rd
- Vehicular Assault
- Menacing
- Extortion: criminal or aggravated
- Reckless endangerment
- Kidnapping: 1st or 2nd
- False Imprisonment
- Enticement of a Child
- Internet Luring of a Child
- Sexual assault
- Unlawful Sexual Contact
- Human trafficking
- Stalking

STAKEHOLDERS

Colorado District Attorneys' Council
Colorado Criminal Defense Bar
Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center
CCASA
COVA
Violence Free Colorado

Sexual Assault Victim Advocate Center
The Blue Bench
International Rescue Committee
Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking
Urban Justice Center Sex Workers Project