House of Representatives



General Assembly

File No. 82

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 6883

House of Representatives, March 12, 2025

The Committee on Government Oversight reported through REP. DATHAN of the 142nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROTECTING THE LOCATION OF HOUSING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 8-360 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
- Nothing in [sections 1-200, 1-205, 1-206, 1-210 to 1-213, inclusive, 1-
- 4 225 to 1-232, inclusive, 1-240 and 19a-342] <u>chapter 14</u> shall be construed
- 5 to require a public agency, as defined in section 1-200, to disclose any
- 6 information indicating the location of a shelter or transitional housing
- 7 for victims of domestic violence <u>or sexual assault. Notwithstanding the</u>
- 8 provisions of chapter 14, any portion of a meeting of a public agency in
- 9 which discussions of a shelter or transitional housing for such victims
- 10 would reveal the location of such shelter or transitional housing shall be
- 11 held in executive session.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2025	8-360

GOS Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill expands existing protection from Freedom of Information Act disclosures for victims of domestic violence to victims of sexual assault and requires any discussion of shelters or transitional housing for sexual assault victims to be held in executive session, resulting in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis sHB 6883

AN ACT PROTECTING THE LOCATION OF HOUSING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS.

SUMMARY

This bill exempts any information on the location of a shelter or transitional housing for sexual assault victims from disclosure under the state's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Current law similarly exempts information on the location of a shelter or transitional housing for domestic violence victims.

The bill also requires, regardless of FOIA's requirements, discussions at public agency meetings to be held in executive session if they would reveal the location of a shelter or transitional housing for domestic violence or sexual assault victims.

Lastly, the bill makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Related Bills

SB 1226, favorably reported by the Government Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee, generally exempts from disclosure under FOIA records maintained or kept by or for public higher education institution faculty or staff arising out of teaching or research on medical, artistic, scientific, legal, or other scholarly issues.

SB 1233, favorably reported by the GAE Committee, generally exempts from disclosure under FOIA the name and address of a person reporting an incident involving alleged bigotry or bias, and the alleged offender, in reports to law enforcement or a database for reporting these

allegations established by UConn's Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy.

HB 6850, favorably reported by the GAE Committee, generally (1) expands FOIA's limitation on disclosing a home address in an agency's personnel, medical, or similar files to include all of the agency's employees, rather than just specified groups and individuals (e.g., certain judges and police officers), and (2) extends to all public agency employees provisions in existing law that allow covered individuals to also request address confidentiality for other types of records.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Oversight Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 9 Nay 0 (02/25/2025)