



House of Representatives

File No. 923

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

(Reprint of File No. 82)

Substitute House Bill No. 6883
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 15, 2025

***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 Section 8-360 of the general statutes is repealed and the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*):

3 [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 shall be construed to require]
5 Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 14, (1) a public agency, as
6 defined in section 1-200, [to] shall not disclose any information
7 indicating the location of a shelter or transitional housing for victims of
8 domestic violence or sexual assault, and (2) any portion of a meeting of
9 a public agency in which discussions of a shelter or transitional housing
10 for such victims would reveal the location of such shelter or transitional
11 housing may be held in executive session.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	8-360
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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 authorizes any discussion of shelters or transitional housing for sexual assault victims that would disclose the location of that shelter to be held in executive session, resulting in no fiscal impact.

House "A" strikes the underlying bill resulting in the fiscal impact described above.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6883 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT PROTECTING THE LOCATION OF HOUSING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill expands confidentiality protections for the locations of shelters or transitional housing for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.

Current law specifies that the state Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) does not require a public agency to disclose any information indicating the location of a shelter or transitional housing for domestic violence victims. The bill instead explicitly prohibits public agencies from disclosing any information indicating these locations, and includes those for sexual assault victims, regardless of FOIA.

The bill also explicitly allows, regardless of FOIA's requirements, portions of 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.

Under FOIA and the bill, a "public agency" generally includes any:

1. executive, administrative, or legislative office of the state or any political subdivision of the state and any state or town agency;
2. department, board, commission, authority, or official of the state or of any municipality, school district, or other district or other political subdivision of the state;
3. committee of, or created by, any of these offices or officials;

4. judicial office, official, or body or committee, but only for administrative functions; and
5. person to the extent they are the functional equivalent of a public agency (CGS § 1-200(1)).

Lastly, the bill makes technical changes.

*House Amendment "A" replaces the underlying bill, which would have (1) extended current law to exempt information on the location of a shelter or transitional housing for sexual assault victims from disclosure required by FOIA and (2) required 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.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Related Bills

SB 1226 (File 125), 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 (File 131), 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.

SB 1433 (File 296), 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 Office of the Attorney General (OAG) employees and (2) extends to OAG employees

provisions in existing law that allow covered individuals to also request address confidentiality for other types of records.

SB 1520 (File 657), favorably reported by the GAE Committee, specifies that FOIA's disclosure exemption for records covered by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) applies to education, rather than "educational," records exempt from FERPA, as it existed on January 3, 2012.

HB 6850 (File 146), 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)