

**House Study Bill 711 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
ON JUDICIARY BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON HOLT)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the inclusion of victims of domestic abuse  
2 within the victim rights Act for the purposes of victim  
3 registration, notification, compensation, and rights in  
4 criminal proceedings and other rights.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 915.10, subsection 3, Code 2022, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. a. "Victim" means a person who has suffered physical,  
4 emotional, or financial harm as the result of a any of the  
5 following committed in this state:

6 (1) A public offense or a delinquent act, other than a  
7 simple misdemeanor, committed in this state.

8 (2) Domestic abuse as defined in section 236.2.

9 (3) An incident where a peace officer identified the person  
10 as an abused person pursuant to section 236.12, subsection 1.

11 b. "Victim" also includes the immediate family members of a  
12 victim who died or was rendered incompetent as a result of the  
13 offense or who was under eighteen years of age at the time of  
14 the offense.

15 Sec. 2. Section 915.50, Code 2022, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 **915.50 General rights of domestic abuse and sexual abuse**  
18 **victims.**

19 1. In addition to other victim rights provided in this  
20 chapter, victims of domestic abuse and sexual abuse shall have  
21 the following rights:

22 ~~1-~~ a. The right to file a pro se petition for relief from  
23 domestic abuse and sexual abuse in the district court, pursuant  
24 to [sections 236.3 through 236.10](#) and sections 236A.3 through  
25 236A.11.

26 ~~2-~~ b. The right, pursuant to [sections 236.12 and 236A.13](#),  
27 for law enforcement to remain on the scene, to assist the  
28 victim in leaving the scene, to assist the victim in obtaining  
29 transportation to medical care, and to provide the person with  
30 a written statement of victim rights and information about  
31 domestic abuse and sexual abuse shelters, support services, and  
32 crisis lines.

33 ~~3-~~ c. The right to receive a no-contact order upon a  
34 finding of probable cause, pursuant to [section 664A.3](#).

35 2. As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise

1 requires, "victim of domestic abuse" means a person who has  
2 suffered physical, emotional, or financial harm as a result of  
3 domestic abuse as defined in section 236.2, subsection 2.

4 Sec. 3. Section 915.80, subsection 9, Code 2022, is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 9. "Victim" means a person who suffers personal injury,  
7 emotional or financial harm, or death as a result of any of the  
8 following:

9 a. A crime.

10 b. The good faith effort of a person attempting to prevent a  
11 crime.

12 c. The good faith effort of a person to apprehend a person  
13 suspected of committing a crime.

14 d. Domestic abuse as defined in section 236.2.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 This bill relates to the inclusion of victims of domestic  
19 abuse within the victim rights Act for the purposes of victim  
20 registration, notification, compensation, and rights in  
21 criminal proceedings and other rights.

22 The bill includes within the meaning of "victim" for the  
23 purposes of victim registration, notification, and rights in  
24 criminal proceedings, a person who has suffered physical,  
25 emotional, or financial harm as a result of domestic abuse or  
26 an incident where a peace officer identified the person as an  
27 abused person due to domestic abuse.

28 The bill defines a "victim", for the purposes of additional  
29 rights of victims of domestic abuse, to include a person who  
30 has suffered physical, emotional, or financial harm as a result  
31 of domestic abuse.

32 The bill includes within the meaning of "victim", for the  
33 purposes of victim compensation, a person who has suffered  
34 personal injury, emotional or financial harm, or death as a  
35 result of domestic abuse.