

SB

4

MEMORANDUM

To: House judiciary Committee
Cc. Senator Halford
Fr: Rep. Joe Green
Re: SB 4 sub-committee

Chairman Kott asked that we look at four different concerns raised in the Judiciary Committee testimony. The concerns were:

- 1) Where should the Office of Victim's Rights be located?
- 2) Are the qualifications required of the advocate justified?
- 3) Is there a need to have an attorney in the position of advocate?
- 4) Should the language relating to an annual report be amended to require it be made available to the public as opposed to "submitting to the public."

The sub-committee has made the following changes:

- 1) The Office of Victim's Rights is placed within the legislature, thus returning to the Senate Judiciary CS.
- 2) The qualifications for the advocate position are justified and no changes are recommended although there were no objections to removing the requirement of "21 years of age."
- 3) The sub-committee felt that at least one attorney position was necessary to ensure that the advocate could be effective.
- 4) The sub-committee changed the requirement that the advocate "submit" the annual report to the public and replaced it with a requirement that the report "be made available to the public." (page 9 Line 29 Senate JUD CS)
- 5) The sub-committee also changed the language prohibiting the victim's advocate from advising a victim against cooperating with law enforcement to against cooperating in an investigation. (Page 6 line 31; Page 7 lines 1-3; Senate JUD CS)