

5408

Sponsor(s): Senators Kohl, Sheldon, McAuliffe, Franklin, Patterson, Wojahn, Fairley, Kline, Winsley and Spanel; by request of Governor Lowry

Brief Title: Increasing penalties for domestic violence.

SB 5408 - DIGEST

Provides that a domestic violence counselor or advocate may not, without the consent of the victim, be examined as to any communication made by the victim to the counselor or advocate.

Provides that the second or subsequent conviction of assault in the fourth degree against the same victim is a class C felony.

Provides that, in sentencing an offender convicted of domestic violence, the sentence may also include up to two years of community supervision which, in addition to crime-related prohibitions, may include batterer treatment in a state-certified program.

Directs the sentencing guidelines commission to study and establish nonbinding guidelines for the imposition of court-ordered batterer treatment in a state-certified program as part of the sentence of a person convicted of domestic violence.