

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1995 SESSION

## CHAPTER 628

*An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1.1 of Title 19.2 a section numbered 19.2-11.3, relating to victim-offender reconciliation programs.*

[H 2005]

Approved March 25, 1995

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1.1 of Title 19.2 a section numbered 19.2-11.3 as follows:**

*§ 19.2-11.3. Establishment of victim-offender reconciliation program.*

*A. Any Crime Victim and Witness Assistance Program may establish a victim-offender reconciliation program to provide an opportunity after conviction for a victim, at his request and upon the subsequent agreement of the offender, to:*

- 1. Meet with the offender in a safe, controlled environment;*
- 2. Give to the offender, either orally or in writing, a summary of the financial, emotional, and physical effects of the offense on the victim or the victim's family; and*
- 3. Discuss a proposed restitution agreement which may be submitted for consideration by the sentencing court for damages incurred by the victim as a result of the offense.*

*B. If the victim chooses to participate in a victim-offender reconciliation program under this section, the victim shall execute a waiver releasing the Crime Victim and Witness Assistance Program, attorney for the offender and the attorney for the Commonwealth from civil and criminal liability for actions taken by the victim or offender as a result of participation by the victim or the offender in a victim-offender reconciliation program.*

*C. A victim shall not be required to participate in a victim-offender reconciliation program under this section.*

*D. The failure of any person to participate in a reconciliation program pursuant to this section shall not be used directly or indirectly at sentencing.*