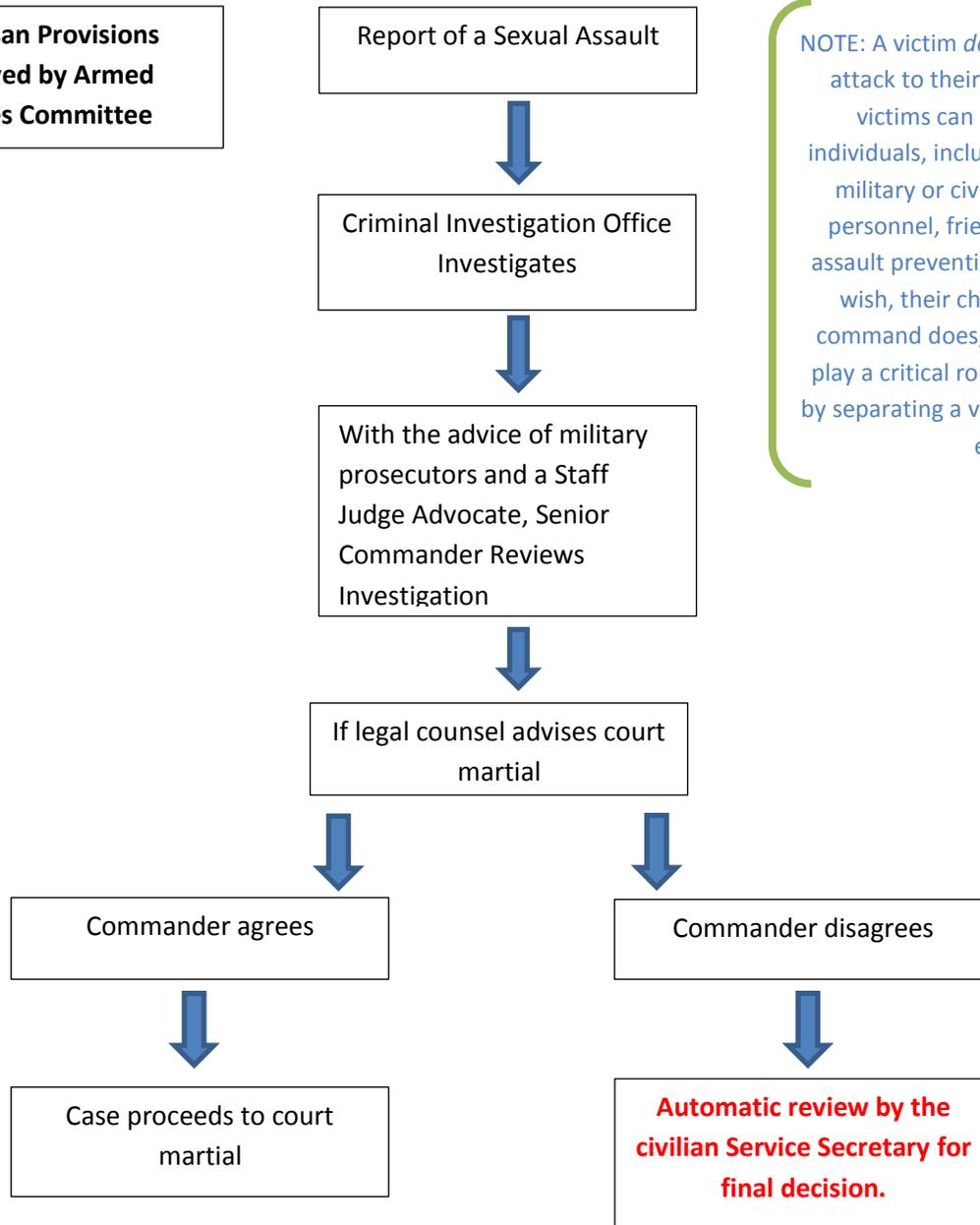


**Bipartisan Provisions
Approved by Armed
Services Committee**



NOTE: A victim *does not* have to report an attack to their commanders. Rather, victims can report to a range of individuals, including medical personnel, military or civilian law enforcement personnel, friends, neighbors, sexual assault prevention personnel, or, if they wish, their chain of command. The command does, after a report is made, play a critical role in protecting a victim, by separating a victim and an accused, for example.

NOTE: Under this approach, advice of legal counsel becomes more important, because in those infrequent times when counsel suggests trial and a commander declines, the civilian Service Secretary automatically assumes final authority on ordering a trial. Meanwhile, commanders can continue to order trials when legal counsel recommends *not* proceeding to trial, increasing the likelihood that offenders will be prosecuted. The importance of command authority over a unit remains and the heft associated with a commanders' ordering of a court martial remains.