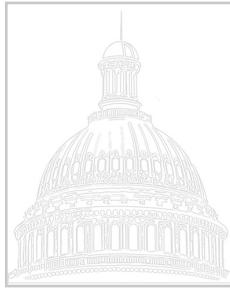


FAMILY VIOLENCE

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Hon. Dale Koch (Ret.), Interim Executive Director



FAMILY VIOLENCE

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Family Violence Department

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FAMILY VIOLENCE
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

by Emilie Meyer

Each year, in order to write the legislative update, the NCJFCJ's Family Violence Department staff contact state coalitions across the nation to help provide perspective on the legislative trends. This year the overwhelming concerns can be summarized in one word: budgets. Many coalition staff felt their ability to promote new protections for domestic violence victims was limited because of the need to focus on protecting current funding levels for pivotal programs.



Despite these budgetary challenges, in 2010, state legislatures passed targeted and tailored measures designed to assist victims of domestic violence and their families to live safer and more protected lives. The new legislation reflects a variety of approaches aimed at increasing safety, including: making stricter bail policies, developing specific custody provisions for military parents, passing varying firearms prohibitions and regulations, and providing additional housing protections for victims of domestic violence. Legislation this year also continued some trends from last year, including: legislative initiatives on adolescent partner violence (also known as teen dating violence)¹ and legislation recognizing the dangers posed by both strangulation and stalking.

The following is an overview of the important trends that were part of the 2010 Legislative Session regarding issues of domestic violence.

Bail and Pretrial Release

Because releasing an individual accused of domestic violence into the community may jeopardize the safety of a victim and his or her family, nine states passed legislation with pretrial release conditions that account for this increased danger in cases of domestic violence. Alaska created a rebuttable presumption against pretrial release for individuals charged with domestic violence. Louisiana and West Virginia prohibit defendants accused of domestic violence from being released on personal recognizance, or unsecured appearance, bonds. Indiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma,

¹ Eugene Hyman, Wanda Lucibello & Emilie Meyer, *In Love or In Trouble: Examining Ways Court Professionals Can Better Respond to Victims of Adolescent Partner Violence*, 61 JUV. & FAM. CT. J. 17,19 (2010) (finding “the term adolescent partner violence ... captures the range of intimate partnerships adolescents engage in, which is not limited to relationships that follow conventional ideas of dating patterns”).

Tennessee, Utah, and West Virginia now require courts to consider whether a defendant has committed domestic violence before determining bail or release conditions; and Indiana and Utah allow courts to issue protection orders upon release. Mississippi now allows judges to hold individuals arrested for domestic violence for a 24-hour cooling off period.

Custody and Military Service

In a new trend that emerged this year, four states (Alaska, Florida, Vermont, and West Virginia) passed laws specific to the custody rights of military service personnel. Generally, these laws provide guidance for courts in adjusting custody when one parent is deployed. Alaska's new law includes a rebuttable presumption against awarding sole or joint custody to a parent who has a history of perpetrating domestic violence or allowing a military parent to delegate his or her parenting rights to an individual with a history of perpetrating domestic violence.



Other Distinctive Custody Legislation

New Hampshire law now protects parents who make good faith allegations of child abuse or neglect from adverse custody determinations based on such allegations. Two other states gave greater rights to non-parent third parties. In Florida, individuals not party to a custody case may petition the court to restrict parenting plans if there is a showing that one parent may violate the plan by moving out of the state or country with the child. Idaho passed the *De Facto* Custodian Act which allows a third party, who has cared for and supported a child, to petition for custody.

Extended Protection Orders

Seven states passed laws increasing victim safety by extending the duration of certain protection orders. In Alabama, final orders are now permanent unless the court specifies otherwise or the petitioner seeks to modify. Protection orders in California are presumed to last for three years unless the order specifies otherwise. In Maryland, New York, Virginia, and West Virginia courts can extend final orders to protect the petitioner; however, in Maryland the extension is allowable only if the respondent violated the order. Delaware allows *ex parte* orders to be extended to allow service. In California, provisions related to custody and visitation issued as part of a protection order survive the termination of the protection order.

Other Distinctive Protection Order Legislation

Two states passed protection order legislation that recognizes that domestic violence is a pattern of coercive control. New Hampshire allows courts to consider any previous conduct by the respondent that threatened a petitioner's safety when issuing a protection order, regardless of the amount of time since the conduct occurred, if the conduct suggests a pattern of abusive behavior. Washington now allows courts to issue protection orders against respondents who live outside of the court's jurisdiction if certain conditions for sufficient contact with the jurisdiction are met. One such condition is when acts giving rise to the petition for protection occurred outside the state, but are part of a pattern of abuse that affects a petitioner living within Washington.

Firearm Prohibitions

Several states passed very different types of firearm legislation in 2010. Colorado extended their InstaCheck program, which helps ensure that individuals convicted of domestic violence felonies cannot purchase firearms. Nebraska now prohibits individuals convicted of violent misdemeanors from obtaining concealed carry permits. Iowa passed state-based prohibitions on firearms similar to those in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and California clarified that such firearms prohibitions apply to harassment orders.



Other Distinctive Firearm Legislation: Firearm Freedom Acts

Six states (Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming) passed laws exempting certain firearms from federal prohibitions. These laws, broadly described as firearm freedom acts, follow a model established by Montana and Tennessee in 2009. Under these states' new laws, if a firearm is made in and remains in the state, then it will not be subject to federal firearm prohibitions. The premise behind these laws is that firearms made, and retained, in-state are beyond the authority of Congress's constitutional power to regulate as commerce among the states.

Stalking

When stalking is a part of a pattern of domestic violence, it increases safety concerns and is associated with higher levels of lethality. In recognition of

this danger, courts in Alabama and Washington can now include prohibitions against stalking in protection orders. West Virginia added stalking to the definition of domestic violence, and Colorado created a new criminal offense for stalking. Colorado also broadened the definition of stalking, while Oklahoma restricted the definition to require that the target of stalking behavior experiences fear.

Strangulation

Nationwide, legislatures continue to address the danger strangulation poses to victims, with five states (Arizona, Delaware, Mississippi, New Hampshire, and New York) creating new strangulation crimes or expanding existing laws related to strangulation. Under Mississippi law, strangulation is now a crime of aggravated assault with a two-year minimum sentence.



Adolescent Partner Violence

Adolescent partner violence impacts how well adolescents perform in school, their attitudes toward sexual activity and substance use, and their understandings of gender norms and appropriate social behaviors. Over the last few years, states have passed legislation recognizing the danger posed by this form of intimate partner violence. This year, six more states (Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania) passed laws requiring or recommending that schools develop and implement training on adolescent partner violence for either students or school personnel. This education is designed to help students, parents, and school personnel recognize, address, and combat adolescent partner violence.

Other Legislative Trends

In addition to the trends noted above, states continue to develop other legislative protections to help secure the rights and safety of domestic violence victims and their families. Some additional legislative trends of note include:

- **Housing Protections:** Five states (California, Illinois, Maryland, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin) passed laws protecting the housing rights of victims. New Hampshire and Wisconsin permit tenants who are victims of domestic violence to terminate their leases early for safety reasons. Also, California, Maryland, and Wisconsin now prohibit discrimination

in housing based on an individual's status as a victim of domestic violence.

- Provisions for Pets: Arizona, Colorado, Oklahoma, and West Virginia continue the trend of allowing protection orders to include provisions related to the safety and care of animals.
- Electronic Monitoring: Indiana and Louisiana passed legislation allowing courts to order electronic monitoring of domestic violence perpetrators. Connecticut and Maryland both established pilot programs and set forth the circumstances in which pilot programs may use electronic monitoring, including upon release from prison for protection order violations and as a condition of pretrial release, probation, or parole.

On the Horizon

Six states (Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, and Texas) did not convene legislative sessions in 2010 because their legislatures convene only in odd-numbered years. These six states will convene legislative sessions with a full slate of bills in 2011.



Also, at this writing, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is scheduled for reauthorization in 2011. In the past, states have responded to changes in VAWA in numerous ways including providing additional services, recognizing new categories of crimes and victims, and passing enabling legislation. If VAWA is reauthorized, any changes will likely be reflected by states in coming years.

Our Deepest Appreciation

The NCJFCJ's Family Violence Department extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who is working to end domestic and family violence. Although we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this document, we receive new information almost daily. Please accept our sincere apology for any errors or omissions. We would appreciate having these brought to our attention.

2010 STATE LEGISLATION*

STATE	DEFINITIONS	CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES	FAMILY AND CHILDREN
ALABAMA			
ALASKA		X	X
ARIZONA		X	
ARKANSAS			
CALIFORNIA		X	X
COLORADO	X	X	X
CONNECTICUT		X	X
DELAWARE		X	
DIST. OF COLUMBIA			
FLORIDA		X	X
GEORGIA			
HAWAII			
IDAHO			X
ILLINOIS		X	
INDIANA		X	
IOWA		X	
KANSAS		X	
KENTUCKY			
LOUISIANA		X	X
MAINE			X
MARYLAND		X	
MASSACHUSETTS			
MICHIGAN			
MINNESOTA			
MISSISSIPPI	X	X	
MISSOURI		X	
MONTANA			

* This chart represents legislation that was passed during the 2010 legislative sessions only. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.

2010 STATE LEGISLATION*

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION	PREVENTION AND TREATMENT	MISCELLANEOUS
X		
		X
X		X
X		X
X		X
X		X
X		X
		X
		X
		X
		X
X		
		X
X		
X		X
		X

2010 STATE LEGISLATION*

STATE	DEFINITIONS	CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES	FAMILY AND CHILDREN
NEBRASKA	X		
NEVADA			
NEW HAMPSHIRE		X	X
NEW JERSEY			
NEW MEXICO	X		
NEW YORK		X	
NORTH CAROLINA		X	
NORTH DAKOTA			
OHIO	X		
OKLAHOMA		X	
OREGON		X	
PENNSYLVANIA			X
RHODE ISLAND			
SOUTH CAROLINA			
SOUTH DAKOTA		X	
TENNESSEE		X	
TEXAS			
UTAH		X	X
VERMONT			X
VIRGINIA			
WASHINGTON		X	
WEST VIRGINIA	X		X
WISCONSIN			X
WYOMING			X

* This chart represents legislation that was passed during the 2010 legislative sessions only. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.

2010 STATE LEGISLATION*

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION	PREVENTION AND TREATMENT	MISCELLANEOUS
		X
X		X
		X
X		X
		X
X		X
X		
		X
		X
		X
X		X
		X
X		
X		X
X		
		X
		X

2010 STATE LEGISLATIVE TRENDS*

STATE	ADOLESCENT PARTNER VIOLENCE	BAIL AND PRETRIAL RELEASE	CUSTODY AND MILITARY SERVICE	CUSTODY AND VISITATION	ELECTRONIC MONITORING	PROTECTION ORDER LEGISLATION
ALABAMA						X
ALASKA		X	X			
ARIZONA						
ARKANSAS						
CALIFORNIA						X
COLORADO						
CONNECTICUT	X				X	
DELAWARE						X
DIST. OF COLUMBIA						
FLORIDA	X		X	X		
GEORGIA						
HAWAII						
IDAHO				X		
ILLINOIS						
INDIANA	X	X			X	
IOWA						
KANSAS						
KENTUCKY						
LOUISIANA	X	X			X	
MAINE						
MARYLAND					X	X
MASSACHUSETTS						
MICHIGAN						
MINNESOTA						
MISSISSIPPI		X				
MISSOURI						
MONTANA						

* This chart represents legislation that was passed during the 2010 legislative sessions only. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.

2010 STATE LEGISLATIVE TRENDS*

FIREARM FREEDOM ACT	FIREARM PROHIBITIONS	HOUSING PROTECTIONS	PROTECTION FOR PETS	STALKING	STRANGULATION
				X	
X					
X			X		X
	X	X			
	X		X	X	
					X
X		X			
	X				
		X			
					X

2010 STATE LEGISLATIVE TRENDS*

STATE	ADOLESCENT PARTNER VIOLENCE	BAIL AND PRETRIAL RELEASE	CUSTODY AND MILITARY SERVICE	CUSTODY AND VISITATION	ELECTRONIC MONITORING	PROTECTION ORDER LEGISLATION
NEBRASKA						
NEVADA						
NEW HAMPSHIRE				X		X
NEW JERSEY						
NEW MEXICO						
NEW YORK						X
NORTH CAROLINA		X				
NORTH DAKOTA						
OHIO	X					
OKLAHOMA		X				
OREGON						
PENNSYLVANIA	X					
RHODE ISLAND						
SOUTH CAROLINA						
SOUTH DAKOTA						
TENNESSEE		X				
TEXAS						
UTAH		X				
VERMONT			X			
VIRGINIA						X
WASHINGTON						X
WEST VIRGINIA		X	X			X
WISCONSIN						
WYOMING						

* This chart represents legislation that was passed during the 2010 legislative sessions only. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 12 and adjourned April 22. Each year the regular session is limited to 30 days.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 30-5-2 is amended to add arson and criminal trespass to the types of conduct that give rise to a petition for a protection order.

§ 30-5-2 is further amended to allow a victim of abuse in a dating relationship to petition for a protection order.

§ 30-5-3 is amended to allow a petitioner to seek a protection order in the jurisdiction where he or she lives or in the jurisdiction where the respondent lives.

§ 30-5-4 is amended to allow the court to incorporate custody, visitation, and support orders from other jurisdictions into the provisions of an *ex parte* protection order, provided the custody, visitation, and support orders comply with the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

§ 30-5-5 is amended to:

- Require that circuit court offices provide standardized petitions for protection orders;
- Prohibit courts from entering mutual protection orders;
- Require that courts keep petitioners' addresses and telephone information confidential; and
- Prohibit courts from charging petitioners any fees associated with the filing or service of the petition.

§ 30-5-6 is amended to require that an *ex parte* order be granted or denied within three business days of filing. The statute also allows the court to extend the duration of an *ex parte* order if the final hearing is postponed.

§ 30-5-7 is amended to allow courts to include prohibitions against stalking behavior in protection orders. The court may also include provisions related to the use of cars and other personal items regardless of ownership.

§ 30-5-7 is further amended to specify that a final protection order is permanent unless the court specifies otherwise or the petitioner seeks to modify the order.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 18 and adjourned April 19. Each year the regular session is limited to 90 days.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 12.30.011 is enacted as part of the bail reform bill and creates a rebuttable presumption that individuals charged with a crime involving domestic violence, who have been previously convicted of a domestic violence crime, cannot be released before trial unless the court can allow release in a way that assures the safety of the victim and community and guarantees the appearance of the individual charged.

§ 12.30.027 is amended to require that the court make a finding that a defendant charged with a crime of domestic violence does not pose a danger to the victim before the court allows the defendant to return to the residence or the victim's place of employment. The court must make a similar finding before allowing a respondent to a protection order to return to the petitioner's residence or place of employment.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 25.20.095 is enacted to establish child custody and visitation standards in cases where one parent is a deployed military service person. The standards include a rebuttable presumption against awarding sole or joint custody to a parent who has a history of perpetrating domestic violence. There is also a rebuttable presumption that the deployed parent may not delegate his or her visitation time to a family member with a history of perpetrating domestic violence.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 18.67.120 is amended to increase the amount the compensation board may award victims of violent crime to \$5,000.

§ 44.99.500 is enacted as the Alaska Firearms Freedom Act and exempts certain firearms and firearm accessories from federal regulations. The exemption applies to all firearms, accessories, or ammunition that are made in Alaska, stamped “made in Alaska,” and not taken outside the state.*

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 11 and adjourned April 29.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 13-1204 is amended to include strangulation and suffocation as conduct rising to the level of aggravated assault.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 13-1602 is amended to allow the court to make provisions in protection orders regarding the care, custody, and control of a pet that belongs to the petitioner, respondent, or minor children. The court may also prohibit the respondent from moving, injuring, or disposing of the animal and require the respondent to stay away from the pet.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 13-3114 is enacted to exempt certain firearms and firearm accessories from federal regulations. The exemption applies to all firearms, accessories, or ammunition that are made in Arizona, stamped “made in Arizona,” and not taken outside the state.*

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 12 and adjourned August 31. The legislature convenes the first Monday in January of odd-numbered years and ends November 30 of the next even-numbered year.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 240 of the Evidence Code is amended to provide that, until January 1, 2016, the court may admit evidence of a statement from an absent witness when the testimony is offered against a party who has engaged or aided in wrongdoing that was intended to, and did, result in the witness being unavailable to testify.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 328 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to clarify that social workers should treat allegations of child abuse that arise in a family court proceeding like other allegations. Social workers may not draw inferences regarding the credibility of allegations from the fact that the allegations were made as part of a custody or visitation dispute.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 6340 of the Family Code is amended to specify that if the court includes provisions related to custody, visitation, or support in a protection order, those provisions survive the termination of the protection order.

§§ 527.6, 527.8, and 527.85 of the Code of Civil Procedure are amended to clarify certain provisions and create new protections. The amendments include:

- Allowing minors, 12 years old and older, to appear in court to petition for or oppose a protection order. Minors must be accompanied by a guardian *ad litem* (§ 527.6).
- Allowing courts to re-issue protection orders when service has not happened within the statutory time frame (§ 527.6).
- Requiring that respondents to protection orders relinquish firearms (§ 527.6).

- Requiring the Judicial Council to develop forms and instructions related to filing and service of protection orders (§ 527.6).
- Clarifying that petitioners should not be charged fees for the service of protection orders (§ 527.6).
- Extending the duration of a temporary protection order to 21 days (§§ 527.6, 527.8, and 527.85).
- Specifying that if a final protection order does not include an expiration date, the order will expire three years after issuance (§§ 527.6, 527.8, and 527.85).
- Allowing courts to transmit protection orders to law enforcement so that law enforcement may enter the orders into the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications system (§§ 527.6, 527.8, and 527.85).

§ 527.10 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to prohibit a respondent to a workplace violence protection order from knowing the address or location of persons protected by the order.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 1030 of the Unemployment Insurance Code is amended to expand the eligibility for unemployment compensation to an individual who has left his or her place of employment because of domestic violence.

§§ 1161.3, 1941.5, and 1941.6 are enacted to prohibit landlords from terminating or failing to renew a lease based on the tenant's status as a victim of domestic violence.

§ 6228 of the Family Code is amended to allow a victim's representative to access domestic violence incident reports in cases where the victim is not deceased. A living victim's representative may include an attorney, members of the victim's immediate family, and a guardian of the victim.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 13 and adjourned May 12. Each year, the regular session starts in January and is limited to 120 days.

DEFINITIONS:

§ 14-10-124 is amended to change language in the best interest of the child factors from “spouse abuse” to “domestic violence.” This change broadens the range of intimate relationships.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§§ 18-3-601 and 18-3-602 are enacted to create a criminal stalking offense.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 19-3-308.3 is enacted to create a pilot program to assess the effectiveness of an alternative response to child abuse and neglect. This program allows five counties to provide services to families without making a determination of mistreatment or identifying a person responsible for the abuse or neglect, provided the level of abuse is low to moderate.

§ 19-4-105.5 is amended to require the court to issue temporary injunctions in paternity cases and custody and visitation cases that are not brought as a part of a divorce proceeding. The injunctions prohibit both parents or guardians from:

- Taking the child out of the state without consent of the other party or the court;*
- Cancelling or allowing the cancellation of health care coverage to the child; or
- Harassing the other party.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 13-14-102 is amended to allow the court to order a respondent to a protection order to refrain from threatening, injuring, hiding, or disposing of an animal belonging to the petitioner, minor children, or other protected persons. The court may include provisions for the care, custody, and control of the animal.

§ 18-6-803.7 is amended to require that the protection order registry contain information regarding the most serious criminal charges, bail amounts, and release conditions in criminal cases where the court issues a protection order.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 24-33.5-424 is amended to extend the current InstaCheck program indefinitely. InstaCheck allows the Colorado Bureau of Investigation to conduct firearms background checks and deny firearms purchases or transfers to persons charged with certain domestic violence felonies. The program was set to expire July 1, 2010.

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.



CONNECTICUT

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened February 3 and adjourned May 5.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 53a-40d is amended to allow the court to consider past convictions of similar crimes in other jurisdictions in cases where the defendant is a persistent offender of assault, trespass, threats, harassment, or violation of protection orders.

§ 53a-40e is amended to rename standing criminal restraining orders as protection orders and to specify that an order is in effect as long as the court determines the order is necessary.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 46b-38c is amended to allow family relations coordinators to share information about respondents who may be a threat to a child or a parent of the child with certain system professionals, including law enforcement and bail commissioners.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 46b-15 is amended to allow the court to consider relevant court records if they are available to the public from a clerk or on the Judicial Branch's website.

§ 46b-15 is further amended to require that protection orders contain notification that the order is consistent with the full faith and credit provisions of the Violence Against Women Act.

§ 46b-38c is amended to allow the judiciary to establish three judicial districts to establish electronic monitoring pilot programs that allow for the monitoring of individuals who have violated protection orders and are determined by the family violence intervention unit to be high risk.

§ 54-1k is amended to require that the court send protection orders to the law enforcement agency responsible for the jurisdiction where the victim works and where the defendant works.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 10-220a is amended to require that in-service trainings for teachers, administrators, and other school personnel include information about adolescent partner violence.

§ 54-85b is amended to prohibit employers from penalizing, threatening, or coercing any employee based on the employee's participation in a civil case where the employee is a victim of domestic violence. Employees who are victims shall also be permitted to take leave to:

- Seek medical or mental health services;
- Obtain victim services; or
- Relocate because of the violence.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 12 and adjourned June 30.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

Title 11 § 607 is amended to create a felony crime of strangulation.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

Title 10 § 1043 is amended to allow the court to extend an *ex parte* protection order for up to 30 days for good cause.

Title 10 § 1045 is amended to allow the court to issue protection orders for up to two years in every case; and, where aggravating circumstances exist, the court may issue orders that are effective for as long as necessary to prevent further abuse.

MISCELLANEOUS:

House Concurrent Resolution No. 23 designates February 2010 “Delaware’s Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.”

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 21 establishes a task force to provide recommendations for policies relating to adolescent partner violence education in schools.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened March 2 and adjourned April 30. Each year, the regular session is limited to 60 days.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 921.141 is amended to provide that when a defendant commits a capital felony in violation of a protection order, the violation itself is an aggravating circumstance for the purposes of sentencing.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 61.13002 is amended to allow a military parent to designate another person to exercise the military parent's time-sharing rights when deployment or service affects the parent's ability to spend time with his or her child.* The statute also provides for expedited hearings on the matter.

§ 61.45 is amended to allow individuals, other than the parties to a custody case, to petition the court to restrict a parenting plan upon showing there is a risk that one party to the plan will violate the order by taking the child out of the state or country. The court may also place additional restrictions on the parenting plan where this threat is found.*

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 1003.42 is amended to require that adolescent partner violence education be included in the health curriculum taught to students in grades 7-12.

§ 741.316 is amended to prohibit Domestic Violence and Fatality Review Teams from having to turn over information and records as part of discovery in a criminal or administrative proceeding.

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

Annual. The regular session convened January 11 and adjourned March 29.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§§ 32-1701 et seq. are enacted as the *De Facto Custodian Act*, which provides a method through which a third party, who has cared for and supported a child, may obtain legal and physical custody of the child if it is in the child's best interests.*

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 18-3315A is enacted to exempt certain firearms and firearm accessories from federal regulations. The exemption applies to all firearms, accessories, or ammunition that are made in Idaho, stamped "made in Idaho," and not taken outside the state.*

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 13 and adjourned May 7.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

730 § 5/3-6-3 is amended to limit the amount of good conduct credits available to prisoners who are convicted of aggravated domestic battery.

MISCELLANEOUS:

735 § 5/9-106.2 is enacted to create an affirmative defense for tenants who are victims of domestic violence and continue to use the property after the landlord demands possession. The defense applies if the landlord's demand is based on:

- The tenant's status as a victim of domestic violence;
- An act or threat of violence against the tenant; or
- Criminal activity associated with domestic violence that was perpetrated against or without the knowledge and consent of the tenant.

Landlords may seek possession of the property against perpetrators of domestic violence.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 5 and adjourned March 12.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 35-33-8-11 is enacted to allow the court to require individuals convicted of crimes of domestic violence to wear a global positioning system (GPS) monitoring device as a condition of bail.

§ 35-33-8-3.6 is enacted to require that in cases where the defendant is charged with a violent crime and released on bail before a hearing, a condition of bail must be that the defendant refrain from any direct and indirect contact with the victim for a period of 10 days.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 20-19-3-10 is amended to require the Department of Education to collaborate with organizations that have expertise on adolescent partner and domestic violence to develop or identify model adolescent partner violence curricula, policies, and methods of outreach.

§§ 33-32-16-1 et seq. are enacted to allow the creation of problem solving courts, including courts dedicated to domestic violence.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 11 and adjourned March 30.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 724.26 is amended to make it a felony for an individual to own, ship, transport, or receive firearms or ammunition if that individual is subject to a qualifying protection order or has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§§ 236.4 and 664A.3 are amended to require that temporary protection orders include notice to the respondent that he or she may be required to relinquish firearms and ammunition.

§ 236.5 is amended to allow courts to include provisions in protection orders that prohibit the respondent from owning, shipping, transporting, or receiving firearms or ammunition.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 11 and adjourned May 28. The regular session is limited to 90 days in even-numbered years.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 21-3110 is amended to include definitions of family violence, dating violence, family or household member, and domestic violence offenses.

§ 21-4603d is amended to require that the court order a domestic violence assessment of defendants convicted of a crime involving domestic violence. Defendants must agree to follow the recommendations of the assessment unless otherwise ordered by the court. The statute also permits the court to order the assessment before sentencing if the report would assist the court.

§ 22-2307 is amended to require that law enforcement agencies develop policies for officers responding to a domestic violence scene. The policies must:

- Direct officers to arrest individuals where probable cause suggests the individual was perpetrating domestic violence and the violence was not used in defense of a person or property;
- Inform officers that they are not required to arrest when there is no probable cause to believe a crime occurred;
- Inform officers that they are not required to make a mutual arrest when both parties to an alleged incident claim to be victims; and
- Direct officers to take and evaluate separately allegations from two or more parties at a scene of alleged domestic violence and consider independently whether the actions were in defense of a person or property.

§ 22-2908 is amended to prohibit diversion in cases where the complaint involves domestic violence and the defendant has participated in diversion for two or more incidents of domestic violence in the last five years.

§ 22-2909 is amended to require that a diversion agreement include a domestic violence assessment if the defendant is accused of a crime involving domestic violence.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened in March and adjourned June 21. The regular session is limited to 45 days in odd-numbered years and 60 days in even-numbered years.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 14:35.3 is amended to establish that a court determination regarding prior convictions for domestic abuse battery is a matter of fact, not a matter of law.*

§ 14:329 is enacted to make it a crime to interfere with a criminal investigation. Interference involves intentionally obstructing an officer at the scene of an alleged crime or accident by refusing to leave or move away from the scene.*

§ 334.2 is amended to include domestic abuse battery in the list of crimes for which a defendant may not be released on his or her own recognizance.

§ 335.1 is amended to allow the court to order a defendant in a domestic abuse battery case to wear a global positioning system (GPS) device as a condition of pretrial release. The defendant must pay any fees associated with the GPS and may be required to provide the victim with a secondary device capable of receiving information from the GPS.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 137 is amended to prohibit the court from awarding visitation of a child to a family member who has engaged in criminal behavior that resulted in the death of a parent of that child.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§§ 17:81 and 3996 are amended to require that public schools include adolescent partner violence education to students in grades 7-12 as a part of the health education program.

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 6 and adjourned April 12. The legislature has two sessions: the first session starts in December of a general election year and typically ends in June; the second session starts in January of even-numbered years and ends in April.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

Title 19-A § 1653 is amended to clarify that the court must consider the best interest of the child factors in the context of past or current domestic violence. The statute also directs the court to consider whether the allocation of parental rights would best support the child's safety and well-being.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

Title 5 §§ 4654 and 4655 and Title 19-A §§ 4006 and 4007 are amended to allow the court to send electronic copies of protection orders to a law enforcement agency for service and to allow a law enforcement agency to transmit proof of service to the court electronically. The statutes also provide that in a criminal prosecution for the violation of a protection order, the defendant may call either the law enforcement officer who served the order or the chief administrative officer as a witness if the order served was a printed copy of an electronically transmitted order.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 13 and adjourned April 12. The regular session is limited to 90 days.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 2-204.1 is enacted to require that officers make an arrest when probable cause indicates an individual is in violation of a protective order.

§§ 5-202, 6-221, and 4-509 are enacted to authorize a pilot program in Prince George's County to use global positioning system (GPS) tracking. Under the program, Prince George's courts may order a defendant convicted of a domestic violence crime to wear a GPS tracking device.

§§ 5-202, 6-221, and 4-509 further authorize a pilot program in Washington County to use global positioning system (GPS) tracking. Under the program, Washington County courts may require a defendant accused of violating a protection order to wear a GPS device as a condition of pretrial release.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 4-506 is amended to allow the court to extend final protection orders for up to two years when the respondent has re-abused the petitioner.

§ 4-521 is enacted to require the Administrative Office of the Courts to maintain a Domestic Violence Central Repository that stores certain domestic violence orders issued in the state.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§§ 8-5A-01 et seq. are enacted to provide housing protections for victims of domestic violence. Under the new law:

- Tenants may terminate a rental agreement if they have a final protection order and provide the landlord with written notice;
- Leases will terminate within 30 days, upon notice, and tenants will be responsible for rent up to the date of termination;
- Tenants can request that the landlord change the locks; and

MARYLAND



- Tenants may also raise a defense of domestic violence in cases of evictions. The defense will establish a rebuttable presumption in favor of the victim.



MISSISSIPPI

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session was convened January 5 and was extended to May 3. Each year, the regular session is limited to 90 days, except during the first year of a gubernatorial administration when the session is limited to 125 days.

DEFINITIONS:

§ 99-3-7 is amended to include children of current and former spouses and children of individuals who have lived as spouses as categories of potential victims of domestic violence.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 97-3-7 is amended to include strangulation and attempted strangulation as forms of aggravated domestic violence. The statute also requires a minimum sentence of two years for crimes of aggravated domestic violence and requires a defendant to serve at least one year before becoming eligible for parole.

§ 97-3-107 is amended to broaden the definition of stalking to include a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her own safety, the safety of another, or the damage or destruction of his or her property. The statute also creates a crime of aggravated stalking.

§ 99-5-37 is amended to allow the court to hold a defendant, who is arrested for a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, for a 24-hour cooling off period.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§§ 83-71-1 et seq. are enacted to prohibit health carriers and insurance providers from unfairly discriminating against victims of abuse. The statute provides that insurers and carriers may not use an individual's status as a victim to:

- Deny coverage;
- Refuse to issue, renew, or re-issue coverage;
- Restrict, cancel, or otherwise terminate a health benefit plan; or
- Add a premium to any health benefit plan.

MISSOURI



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 6 and adjourned May 25.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 563.031 is amended to allow a pregnant woman to use deadly force if she reasonably believes the force is necessary to protect her unborn child from death or serious injury.*

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

Annual. The regular session convened January 6 and adjourned April 14. The regular session lasts for 90 days in odd-numbered years and for 60 days in even-numbered years.

DEFINITIONS:

§ 28-323 is amended to broaden the definition of domestic assault to include threatening an intimate partner.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 69-2433 is amended to prohibit an individual from obtaining a concealed handgun permit if he or she has been convicted, or pled guilty to, a violent misdemeanor in any jurisdiction in the last 10 years.

NEW HAMPSHIRE



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 6 and adjourned July 1. Each year, the regular session must be concluded within 45 legislative days or by the first of July, whichever comes first.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 631:2 is enacted to include strangulation in the definition of second degree assaults, which makes strangulation a felony.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 273:1 is amended to clarify that when considering the best interest of the child, courts must consider whether certain kinds of contact are likely to result in harm to the child or one of the parents. The statute also protects parents who make good faith allegations of child abuse or neglect from adverse custody determinations based on such allegations.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 289:1 is amended to clarify that the court may consider evidence of previous conduct that posed a threat to the petitioner's safety when issuing a protection order. The court may consider such evidence regardless of the amount of time since the conduct occurred if the conduct, when viewed in the context of recent events, suggests a pattern of behavior designed to make the petitioner fearful for his or her safety.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 540:2 is amended to prohibit certain landlords from terminating a lease or refusing to renew a lease because the tenant is a victim of domestic violence or stalking.



NEW MEXICO

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 19 and adjourned February 18. The regular session is limited to 60 days in odd-numbered years and to 30 days in even-numbered years.

DEFINITIONS:

§ 30-3-11 is amended to focus the definition of victim of domestic violence more closely on intimate relationships. The statute no longer includes siblings or family members in the category of protected persons.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 9-2A-24 is enacted to create the New Mexico Domestic Violence Leadership Commission, a group focused on identifying and developing strategies to improve the response to domestic violence.

Senate Joint Memorial No. 27 is enacted to make February 10, 2010, “New Mexico Link Awareness Day” in recognition of the connection between domestic violence and animal cruelty.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 6 and adjourned June 21.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§§ 121.11 through 121.13 of the Penal Law are enacted to create misdemeanor and felony crimes of strangulation.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 153-b of the Family Code Act and § 240 of the Domestic Relations Law are amended to allow the court to fax or send protection orders electronically to service agencies in order to expedite service.

§§ 446, 551, 656, 759, 812, and 1056 of the Family Court Act are amended to prohibit the court from dismissing a protection order application or denying a protection order based solely on when the alleged conduct occurred. Alleged conduct does not need to occur immediately before the application for protection is filed.

§ 842 of the Family Court Act is amended to allow the court to extend the duration of a protection order for a reasonable period of time based on the consent of the parties or a showing of good cause.

§ 842 of the Family Court Act is further amended to clarify that the duration of a temporary protection order should not be a factor in determining the duration of a final protection order.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 5-508 of the Election Law is enacted to establish a confidential election record category for victims of domestic violence.

§ 91 of the Public Service Law is amended to require telephone companies to allow victims of domestic violence who have protection orders to:

- Modify or customize their name in the directory; or
- Have an unlisted number.

The telephone companies may not charge for this service.



NORTH CAROLINA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened May 10 and adjourned July 10.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 15A-534 is amended to require the court to consider a defendant's criminal record before determining pretrial release conditions in cases of domestic violence.

§ 50B-4.1 is amended to make it a felony for a respondent subject to a valid protection order to enter a safe house where the petitioner resides. Entry is a felony even if the petitioner was not present at the time.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§§ 1-619 and 1-620 are enacted to limit the liability of domestic violence shelters. Shelters are not liable for the actions that perpetrators commit while on the shelter's property.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Biennium. The regular session convened January 4 and adjourned June 4.

DEFINITIONS:

§ 2919.25 is amended to include foster parents in the definition of family members who may be found guilty of committing domestic violence.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 2151.34 is enacted and §§ 2151.23 and 2151.358 are amended to allow juvenile courts to issue protection orders against minors alleged to have committed certain acts of domestic violence against the petitioner.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 13313.60 is amended to require schools to include an adolescent partner violence awareness and prevention curriculum in grades 7-12.

§ 3313.666 is amended to require that schools incorporate adolescent partner violence into their policies on harassment and bullying.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened February 1 and adjourned May 28.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 60.1 of Title 22 is amended to require that for behaviors to constitute stalking they must cause the individual targeted to feel fearful*, threatened, or harassed. The statute also clarifies that stalking is a course of conduct.

§ 1105 of Title 22 is amended to require that courts, when determining bail for a defendant who has violated a protection order, consider whether the defendant has:

- A history of domestic violence;
- Mental health issues;
- Violated court orders previously;
- Abused drugs or alcohol;
- Access to a weapon;
- Stalked or monitored the victim; and
- Expressed suicidal intentions.

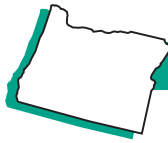
ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 40.3 of Title 22 is amended to allow victims of domestic violence and stalking to request an emergency protection order through law enforcement when the court is closed.

§§ 60.2 and 60.4 of Title 22 are amended to allow protection orders to include provisions providing for the care, custody, and control of any animals or pets held by either party or their minor child. It also allows the court to prohibit the respondent from moving, injuring, or disposing of the animal and to require the respondent to stay away from the pet.

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.

OREGON



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Biennium. However, the 2010 legislature met in an emergency session.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§§ 135.881 and 135.886 are amended to allow veteran service members to qualify for prosecution diversion for first offenses. The statute prohibits diversion in certain cases, including those involving domestic violence.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 1746.015 is amended to prevent insurers from designating mental or physical injuries resulting from domestic violence as pre-existing conditions.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 5 and adjourned July 3.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§§ 5321 et seq. of Title 23 are enacted to replace current custody laws. The statute among numerous other changes:

- Requires the court to include safety conditions that protect the child and abused party in a custody order awarding any form of custody to a party who committed domestic abuse;
- Clarifies that there is no custody presumption;
- Directs the court, when determining the best interest of the child, to consider past and present domestic abuse and the risk of harm to the child and abused party;
- Directs the court, when determining the best interest of the child in domestic abuse cases, to not consider whether one parent has attempted to cooperate with the other;
- Prohibits the court from ordering parties to attend joint counseling in domestic abuse cases;
- Prohibits the court from disclosing the address or other protected information of a party who is a victim of domestic abuse;
- Directs the court to consider past and present abuse when determining a party's right to relocate; and
- Allows the court to consider past and present domestic abuse as a mitigating circumstance for a party's failure to provide notice regarding relocation.

MISCELLANEOUS:

House Resolution No. 584 passed designating February 1 through 5, 2010, as "Teen Dating Violence Prevention Week."

RHODE ISLAND



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 5 and adjourned June 11.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 8-10-3 is amended to allow juvenile petitioners for protection orders to file in family court rather than in district court.



SOUTH DAKOTA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 12 and adjourned March 29. The regular session is limited to 40 days in odd-numbered years and to 35 days in even-numbered years.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 22-19A-17 is amended and § 25-10-43 is enacted to prohibit an individual who is arrested for domestic violence from having any contact with the victim or the family of the victim until the first appearance or until authorized by the court. Contact with prohibited persons is a misdemeanor.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 37-35-2 is enacted to exempt certain firearms and firearm accessories from federal regulations. The exemption applies to all firearms, accessories, or ammunition that are made in South Dakota, stamped “made in South Dakota,” and not taken outside the state.*

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Biennium. The regular session convened January 12 and adjourned June 10. The regular session is limited to 90 days every two years.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§§ 39-13-101 and 39-13-102 are amended to allow the court to impose an additional fine of up to \$200 in cases of domestic violence. The court must determine the fine based on the defendant's ability to pay.

§ 39-13-111 is amended to allow the court to order a defendant convicted of domestic assault to attend a batterers' intervention program. Failure to complete the program is a violation of the sentencing requirements and grounds for revoking alternative sentencing.

§ 40-11-150 is amended to require that courts, when determining bail in domestic violence or stalking cases, consider and determine whether the defendant is:

- A threat to the alleged victim;
- A threat to public safety; and
- Likely to appear in court.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 36-3-604 is amended to require that all courts with jurisdiction over protection orders use the same protection order form.

§ 36-3-606 is amended to clarify that the court can grant only petitioners who are victims of domestic violence exclusive possession of a residence or housing support from the respondent. This relief is not available in cases of stalking or sexual assault where domestic violence is not present.

§ 36-3-606 is further amended to allow the court to prohibit the respondent from coming near the petitioner or using any forms of communication, including electronic or telephonic, to contact the petitioner.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 25 and adjourned March 13. The regular session is limited to 60 calendar days.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 14-10-124 is amended to define the terms “jail release court order” and “sentencing protective order”. Both orders limit the contact that a person arrested for domestic violence may have with the victim and other individuals.

§ 76-5-303 is amended and § 76-5-303.5 is enacted to allow the court to suspend the driver’s license of individuals convicted of custodial interference.*

§ 76-3-203.10 is enacted to create a penalty for committing, or attempting to commit, a violent criminal act in the presence of a child.*

§ 77-36-2.5 is amended to specify that although a jail release court order expires at the defendant’s initial appearance, the court may order a pretrial protective order limiting contact with the victim.

§ 77-36-2.7 is amended to require that the court transmit information on pretrial protective orders, sentencing orders, and case dismissals to the statewide domestic violence network. The statute also clarifies that both pretrial and sentencing protective orders supersede jail release court orders.

§ 77-36-2.7 is further amended to require that when a domestic violence case is dismissed, any pretrial protective orders are also dismissed.*

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 30-3-37 is amended to clarify that relocation means moving 150 miles or more from the location specified in the court’s decree. The statute also clarifies that a custodial parent is entitled to all parent-time not specifically given to the noncustodial parent.*

MISCELLANEOUS:

§§ 53-5b-101 et seq. are enacted as the Utah State-Made Firearms Protection Act and exempt certain firearms and firearm accessories from federal regulations. The exemption applies to all firearms, accessories, or ammunition that are made in Utah, stamped “made in Utah” or “made in UT,” and not taken outside the state.*

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LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

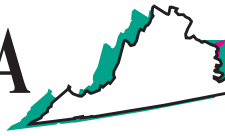
Annual. The regular session convened January 5 and adjourned May 12.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§§ 681 et seq. of Title 15 are enacted as the Military Parents’ Parental Rights Act. The Act establishes procedures to determine parental rights, responsibilities, and child contact in cases where one parent is a deployed military service person. Under the Act:

- The court may issue temporary orders modifying rights, responsibilities, and contacts during a parent’s deployment;
- The court may not issue final orders until nine days after the deployment ends;
- The court may not consider the deployment itself as a change in circumstances; and
- The deployed parent may delegate his or her child contact rights to another person during the deployment.*

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.



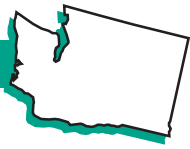
LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 13 and adjourned March 13. The regular session is limited to 30 days in odd-numbered years and to 60 days in even-numbered years.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§§ 16.1-279.1 and 19.2-152.10 are amended to allow a petitioner to request that the court extend a domestic violence or stalking protection order for an additional two years. The request must be filed before the order expires, but there is no limit to the number of extensions that a petitioner can request.

Act 467 is enacted to require the Office of the Executive Secretary to coordinate with other states annually on protection order forms in order to facilitate interstate enforcement of orders.



WASHINGTON

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 11 and adjourned March 11. The regular session starts in January and is limited to 105 days in odd-numbered years and to 60 days in even-numbered years.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:

§ 9.94A.525 is amended to give additional weight to prior proven domestic violence incidents when sentencing domestic violence felony offenders.

§ 10.31.100 is amended to encourage law enforcement officers to consider whether there is a pattern of ongoing abuse for the purposes of arresting without a warrant.

§ 10.99.045 is amended to require that prosecutors provide the court with information regarding the defendant's criminal history before the court issues a no contact order or decides other conditions of the defendant's pretrial release.

§ 10.99.100 is enacted to require that courts sentencing for a crime of domestic violence consider whether:

- The defendant was a victim of coercive control and committed the crime in response to the abuse;
- The crime was committed as a part of a pattern of coercive control; or
- The crime was committed in the presence of a child.*

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§§ 10.14.155 and 26.50.240 are enacted to clarify that a court may issue an anti-harassment order or protection order against a respondent who lives outside of the court's jurisdiction if:

- The respondent is served in the state;
- The respondent submits to the state's jurisdiction;
- The acts giving rise to the petition for protection occurred in the state; or
- The acts giving rise to the petition occurred outside the state, but are a part of a pattern of abuse that affects a petitioner living within the state.

§ 10.99.040 is amended to require that the administrative office of the courts develop uniform forms for all no contact orders.

§§ 26.50.060 and 26.50.070 are amended to allow courts to include in both full and *ex parte* protection orders prohibitions against cyber harassment, stalking, or monitoring.

§ 26.50.230 is enacted to require additional information forms be provided to a petitioner who has a brain injury or cognitive disabilities. The statute also provides that when serving a protection order on a respondent with a brain injury or cognitive disabilities, law enforcement should make reasonable accommodations for the respondent as long as the accommodations do not threaten the safety of the petitioner.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 2.56.240 is amended to require that the administrative office of the courts develop a process to reconcile competing or conflicting provisions in no contact or protection orders.

*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing law rather than enacting new legislation that, when implemented, may have dangerous unintended consequences and ramifications for domestic violence victims and their children.



WEST VIRGINIA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened January 13 and adjourned March 20. The session is limited to 60 days.

DEFINITIONS:

§ 48-27-202 is amended to include stalking in the definition of domestic violence.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 48-9-205 is amended to require that parenting plans include custody arrangements for deployment if either or both parents are service members who may be deployed or called to active duty.

ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:

§ 48-27-503 is amended to allow the court to make provisions in protection orders regarding the care, custody, and control of a pet that belongs to the petitioner, respondent, or minor children. The court may also prohibit the respondent from moving, injuring, or disposing of the animal and require the respondent to stay away from the pet.

§ 48-27-505 is amended to allow the court to issue protection orders that last one year if aggravating circumstances exist. The statute also allows the court to extend orders beyond one year if necessary for the safety of the petitioner.

§ 48-27-901 is amended to clarify that when the court finds a respondent in civil contempt of a protection order, the court may not order bonds for compliance based on personal recognizance or waive bonds for compliance.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Biennium. The regular session convened January 1 and adjourned April 22.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 813.125 is amended to require that courts provide parties with custody reports and allow parties an opportunity to review before the report is submitted into evidence.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§ 106.50 is amended to prohibit landlords from discriminating against a tenant based on that person's status as a victim of domestic violence or stalking. The statute also provides that a landlord may not evict a victim for incidents of domestic violence if the perpetrator was uninvited or the tenant tried to prevent the perpetrator from returning to the property.

§ 704.16 is amended to require that landlords change the locks to a tenant's apartment within 48 hours of the request, if the victim provides proof of a protection order or criminal complaint.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Annual. The regular session convened February 8 and adjourned March 5. The session is limited to 60 days every two years with no more than 40 days in a single year.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN:

§ 14-2-309 is amended to establish that parental rights may be terminated when one parent murders the other parent.

MISCELLANEOUS:

§§ 5-2-121 and 5-2-122 are enacted to create an indigent civil legal defense fund administered by the state supreme court that will provide assistance to individuals within 200 percent of the poverty level in certain kinds of cases, including family law cases.

§§ 6-8-402 through 6-8-406 are enacted to exempt certain firearms and firearm accessories from federal regulations. The exemption applies to all firearms, accessories, or ammunition that are made in Wyoming, stamped “made in Wyoming,” and not taken outside the state. The statute also establishes penalties for individuals who arrest a Wyoming citizen for making or selling firearms, ammunition, or accessories in compliance with the law.*

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STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence

P.O. Box 4762
Montgomery, AL 36101
Phone: (334) 832-4842
Hotline: (800) 650-6522
Fax: (334) 832-4803
Email: info@acadv.org
Website: www.acadv.org

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

130 Seward Street, Suite 209
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 586-3650
Fax: (907) 463-4493
Email: info@andvsa.org
Website: www.andvsa.org

Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence

2800 N. Central Avenue
Suite 1570
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: (602) 279-2900
Hotline: (800) 782-6400
TTY: (602) 279-7270
Fax: (602) 279-2980
Email: acadv@azcadv.org
Website: www.azcadv.org

Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1401 W. Capitol Avenue, Suite 170
Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: (501) 907-5612
Toll-Free: (800) 269-4668
Fax: (501) 907-5618
Email: acadv@domesticpeace.com
Website: www.domesticpeace.com

California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

P.O. Box 1798
Sacramento, CA 95812
Phone: (916) 444-7163
Hotline: (800) 524-4765
Fax: (916) 444-7165
Email: info@cpedv.org
Website: www.cpedv.org

Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 900
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: (303) 831-9632
Toll Free: (888) 778-7091
Fax: (303) 832-7067
Website: www.ccadv.org

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

90 Pitkin Street
East Hartford, CT 06108
Phone: (860) 282-7899
Toll Free: (800) 281-1481
Fax: (860) 282-7892
Website: www.ctcadv.org

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

100 W. 10th Street, Suite 703
Wilmington, DE 19801
Phone: (302) 658-2958
Fax: (302) 658-5049
Email: dcadvadmin@dcadv.org
Website: www.dcadv.org

STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

District of Columbia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

5 Thomas Circle NW
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 299-1181
Fax: (202) 299-1193
Email: info@dccadv.org
Website: www.dccadv.org

Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence

425 Office Plaza Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: (850) 425-2749
Hotline: (800) 500-1119
TTY: (800) 621-4202
Fax: (850) 425-3091
Website: www.fcadv.org

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

114 New Street, Suite B
Decatur, GA 30030
Phone: (404) 209-0280
Hotline: (800) 33-HAVEN
TTY: (800) 334-2836
Fax: (404) 766-3800
Email: info@gcadv.org
Website: www.gcadv.org

Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence

P.O. Box 1093
Hagatna, GU 96932
Phone: (671) 479-2277
Fax: (671) 479-7233
Email: info@guamcoalition.org
Website: www.guamcoalition.org

Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

716 Umi Street, Suite 210
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: (808) 832-9316
Fax: (808) 841-6028
Website: www.hscadv.org

Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

300 E. Mallard Drive, Suite 130
Boise, ID 83706
Phone: (208) 384-0419
Hotline: (888) 293-6118
Fax: (208) 331-0687
Website: www.idvsa.org

Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence

801 S. 11th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
Phone: (217) 789-2830
Hotline: (877) 863-6338
TTY: (217) 241-0376
Fax: (217) 789-1939
Website: www.ilcadv.org

Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1915 W. 18th Street, Suite B
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: (317) 917-3685 or
(800) 538-3393
Hotline: (800) 332-7385
Fax: (317) 917-3695
Website: www.icadvinc.org

Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence

515 28th Street, Suite 104
Des Moines, IA 50312
Phone: (515) 244-8028
Hotline: (800) 942-0333
Fax: (515) 244-7417
Email: admin@icadv.org
Website: www.icadv.org

Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

634 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS 66603
Voice/TTY:(785) 232-9784
Fax: (785) 266-1874
Website: www.kcsdv.org

Kentucky Domestic Violence Association

P.O. Box 356
Frankfort, KY 40602
Phone: (502) 209-5382
Fax: (502) 226-5382
Email: info@kdva.org
Website: www.kdva.org

Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

P.O. Box 77308
Baton Rouge, LA 70879
Phone: (225) 752-1296
Hotline: (888) 411-1333
Fax: (225) 751-8927
Website: www.lcadv.org

Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence

104 Sewall Street
Augusta, ME 04330
Phone: (207) 430-8334
Hotline: (866) 834-HELP
TTY: (800) 437-1220
Fax: (207) 430-8348
Email: info@mcedv.org
Website: www.mcedv.org

Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence

6911 Laurel-Bowie Road, Suite 309
Bowie, MD 20715
Phone: (301) 352-4574
Hotline: (800) MD-HELPS
Fax: (301) 809-0422
Email: info@mnadv.org
Website: www.mnadv.org

Jane Doe Inc.

Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

14 Beacon Street, Suite 507
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: (617) 248-0922
Hotline: (877) 785-2020
TTY/TDD:(617) 263-2200
Fax: (617) 248-0902
Email: info@janedoe.org
Website: www.janedoe.org

Michigan Coalition Against Domestic Violence

3893 Okemos Road, Suite B-2
Okemos, MI 48864
Phone: (517) 347-7000
TTY: (517) 381-8470
Fax: (517) 347-1377
Website: www.mcadsv.org

STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

60 E. Plato Blvd., Suite 130
St. Paul, MN 55107
Voice/TDD: (651) 646-6177
Toll-Free: (800) 289-6177
Fax: (651) 646-1527
Website: www.mcbw.org

Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence

P.O. Box 4703
Jackson, MS 39296
Phone: (601) 981-9196
Hotline: (800) 898-3234
Fax: (601) 981-2501
Website: www.mcadv.org

Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

217 Oscar Drive, Suite A
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Phone: (573) 634-4161
Website: www.mocadsv.org

Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

P.O. Box 818
Helena, MT 59624
Phone: (406) 443-7794
Toll-Free: (888) 404-7794
Fax: (406) 443-7818
Email: mtcoalition@mcadsv.com
Website: www.mcadsv.com

Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition

1000 O Street, Suite 102
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: (402) 476-6256
Hotline: (800) 876-6238
Fax: (402) 476-6806
Email: info@ndvsac.org
Website: www.ndvsac.org

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

220 S. Rock Blvd., Suite 7
Reno, NV 89502
Phone: (775) 828-1115
Toll-Free: (800) 230-1955
Hotline: (800) 500-1556
TTY: (800) 787-3224
Fax: (775) 828-9911
Website: www.nnadv.org

New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

P.O. Box 353
Concord, NH 03302
Phone: (603) 224-8893
Hotline: (866) 644-3574
Fax: (603) 228-6096
Website: www.nhcadsv.org

New Jersey Coalition For Battered Women

1670 Whitehorse-Hamilton
Square Road
Trenton, NJ 08690
Phone: (609) 584-8107
TTY: (609) 584-0027
Fax: (609) 584-9750
Email: info@njcbw.org
Website: www.njcbw.org

STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

201 Coal Avenue SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Phone: (505) 246-9240
Fax: (505) 246-9434
Email: info@nmcadv.org
Website: www.nmcadv.org

New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

350 New Scotland Avenue
Albany, NY 12208
Phone: (518) 482-5465
Hotline: (800) 942-6906 (English)
(800) 942-6908 (Spanish)
TTY: (800) 818-0656 (English)
(800) 780-7660 (Spanish)
Fax: (518) 482-3807
Email: nyscadv@nyscadv.org
Website: www.nyscadv.org

North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence

123 W. Main Street, Suite 700
Durham, NC 27701
Phone: (919) 956-9124
Toll-Free: (888) 232-9124
Fax: (919) 682-1449
Website: www.nccadv.org

North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services

418 E. Rosser Avenue, Suite 320
Bismarck, ND 58501
Phone: (701) 255-6240
Toll-Free: (888) 255-6240
Fax: (701) 255-1904
Website: www.ndcaws.org

Ohio Domestic Violence Network

4807 Evanswood Drive, Suite 201
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 781-9651
Fax: (614) 781-9652
Email: info@odvn.org
Website: www.odvn.org

Action Ohio Coalition for Battered Women

5900 Roche Drive, Suite 445
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 825-0551
Toll-Free: (888) 622-9315
Fax: (614) 825-0673
Email: actionohio@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.actionohio.org

Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

3815 N. Santa Fe Avenue, Suite 124
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
Phone: (405) 524-0700
Hotline: (800) 522-7233
Fax: (405) 524-0711
Email: info@ocadvsa.org
Website: www.ocadvsa.org

Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

1737 NE Alberta Street, Suite 205
Portland, OR 97211
Phone: (503) 230-1951
Hotline: (877) 330-1951
Fax: (503) 230-1973
Website: www.ocadsv.org

STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

3605 Vartan Way, Suite 101
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Main Office: (717) 545-6400
National: (800) 932-4632
TTY: (800) 553-2508
Fax: (717) 671-8149

Legal Office

PA Only: (888) 23-LEGAL
TTY: (800) 353-2508
Fax: (717) 671-5542
Website: www.pcadv.org

Coordinadora Paz Para La Mujer, Inc.

Apartado 193008
San Juan, PR 00919
Phone: (787) 281-7579
Fax: (787) 767-6843
Email: pazmujer@prtc.net
Website: www.pazparalamujer.org

Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence

422 Post Road, Suite 102
Warwick, RI 02888
Phone: (401) 467-9940
Helpline: (800) 494-8100
Fax: (401) 467-9943
Email: ricadv@ricadv.org
Website: www.ricadv.org

South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

P.O. Box 7776
Columbia, SC 29202
Phone: (803) 256-2900
Toll Free: (800) 260-9293
Website: www.sccadvasa.org

South Dakota Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Pierre Office
P.O. Box 141
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: (605) 945-0869
Hotline: (800) 572-9196
Fax: (605) 945-0870
Email: chris@sdcadvsa.org
Website: www.sdcadvsa.org

Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

International Plaza
2 International Plaza Drive, Suite 425
Nashville, TN 37217
Phone: (615) 386-9406
Toll Free: (800) 289-9018
Fax: (615) 383-2967
Email: tcadsv@tcadsv.org
Website: www.tcadsv.org

Texas Council on Family Violence

P.O. Box 161810
Austin, TX 78716
Phone: (512) 794-1133
Toll Free: (800) 525-1978
Fax: (512) 794-1199
Website: www.tcfv.org

Utah Domestic Violence Council

205 N. 400 W.
Salt Lake City, UT 84103
Phone: (801) 521-5544
Hotline: (800) 897-5465
Fax: (801) 521-5548
Website: www.udvac.org

STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

P.O. Box 405
Montpelier, VT 05601
Phone: (802) 223-1302
Hotline: (800) 228-7395
TTY: (802) 223-1115
Email: vtnetwork@vtnetwork.org
Website: www.vtnetwork.org

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

The Corporate Center
5008 Monument Avenue, Suite A
Richmond, VA 23230
Phone: (804) 377-0335
Hotline/TTY: (800) 838-8238
Fax: (804) 377-0339
Email: info@vsdvalliance.org
Website: www.vsdvalliance.org

Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Olympia Office
711 Capitol Way, Suite 702
Olympia, WA 98501
Phone: (360) 586-1022
TTY: (360) 585-1029
Fax: (360) 586-1024
Email: wscadv@wscadv.org
Website: www.wscadv.org

Seattle Office

1402 3rd Avenue, Suite 406
Seattle, WA 98101
Phone: (206) 389-2515
TTY: (206) 389-2900
Fax: (206) 389-2520
Email: wscadv@wscadv.org

West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

5004 Elk River Road S.
Elkview, WV 25071
Voice/TTY:(304) 965-3552
Fax: (304) 965-3572
Website: www.wvcadv.org

Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence

307 S. Paterson Street, #1
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: (608) 255-0539
Fax: (608) 255-3560
Email: wcadv@wcadv.org
Website: www.wcadv.org

Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

P.O. Box 236
Laramie, WY 82073
Phone: (307) 755-5481
Hotline: (800) 990-3877
Legal Line:(307) 755-0992
Fax: (307) 755-5482
Email: info@mail.wyomingdvsa.org
Website: www.wyomingdvsa.org

The Women's Coalition of St. Croix

P.O. Box 222734
Christiansted, VI 00822
Phone: (340) 773-9272
Fax: (340) 773-9062
Email: wscsc@pennswoods.net
Website: www.wcstx.com

STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Alabama State Legislature

State House, Suite 613
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
House: (334) 242-7600
Senate: (334) 242-7800
Website: www.legislature.state.al.us/

Alaska Legislative Information Office

Juneau Legislative Information Office
State Capitol, Terry Miller Building,
Suite 111
Juneau, AK 99801
House: (907) 465-3725
Senate: (907) 465-3701
Website: www.w3.legis.state.ak.us

Arizona State Legislature

First Floor, House Wing
State Capitol
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
House: (602) 926-4221
Senate: (602) 542-3559
Website: www.azleg.gov

Arkansas State Legislature

State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201
House: (501) 682-1937 (In Session)
House: (501) 682-7771 (Out of Session)
Senate: (501) 682-2902 (In Session)
Senate: (501) 682-6107 (Out of Session)
Website: www.arkleg.state.ar.us

California Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly

State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 319-2856
Website: www.assembly.ca.gov

California Office of the Secretary of the Senate

State Capitol, Room 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4171
Website: www.sen.ca.gov

Colorado Legislative Council

200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3521
Website: www.colorado.gov

Connecticut Law and Legislative Reference Unit

State Library, Room L212
231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: (860) 757-6590
Fax: (860) 757-6539
Website: www.cslib.org

Delaware Division of Research, Legislative Council

Legislative Hall, Ground Floor
411 Legislative Avenue
P.O. Box 1401
Dover, DE 19903
Phone: (302) 744-4114
Fax: (302) 739-3895
Website: www.legis.delaware.gov

District of Columbia Office of the Secretary, Council of the District of Columbia

John A. Wilson Building, Suite 5
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (202) 724-8000
Fax: (202) 347-3070
Website: www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us

STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Florida Division of Legislative Information Services

Claude Pepper Building,
Room 704
111 W. Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 488-4371
Fax: (850) 921-5334
Email: leg.info@leg.state.fl.us
Website: www.leg.state.fl.us

Georgia Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives

State Capitol, Room 309
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 656-5015
Website: www.legis.state.ga.us

Georgia Office of the Secretary of the Senate

State Capitol, Room 353
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 656-5040
Fax: (404) 656-5043
Website: www.state.ga.us/legis

Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau

State Capitol, Room 005
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 587-0690
Fax: (808) 587-0699
Email: lrb@capitol.hawaii.gov
Website: www.capitol.hawaii.gov

Idaho Legislative Reference Library

Legislative Services Office
700 W. Jefferson Street
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720
Phone: (208) 334-2475
Fax: (208) 334-2125
Email: kford@lso.idaho.gov
Website: www.legislature.idaho.gov

Illinois Legislative Research Unit

222 S. College, Suite 301
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone: (217) 782-6851
Fax: (217) 785-7572
Email: lru@ilga.gov
Website: www.ilga.gov

Indiana House of Representatives Legislative Services Agency

200 W. Washington
Indianapolis, IN 46204
House: (317) 232-9600
Senate: (317) 232-9400
Website: www.in.gov/legislative

Iowa Legislative Information Office

State Capitol, Ground Floor,
Room G16
Des Moines, IA 50319
Phone: (515) 281-5129
Email: lioinfo@legis.state.ia.us
Website: www.legis.iowa.gov

Kansas Legislative Research Department

300 SW Tenth
Topeka, KS 66612
Phone: (785) 296-3181
Fax: (785) 296-3824
Email: kslegres@klrd.ks.gov
Website: www.kslegislature.org/klrd

STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Kentucky Legislative

Research Commission

State Capitol, Room 300
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502) 564-8100
Fax: (502) 223-5094
Email: robert.jenkins@lrc.ky.gov
Website: www.lrc.state.ky.us

Louisiana House of Representatives

P.O. Box 94062
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
Phone: (225) 342-6945
Website: www.house.louisiana.gov

Louisiana State Senate

P.O. Box 94183
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
Phone: (225) 342-2040
Website: www.senate.louisiana.gov

Maine Law and Legislative

Reference Library

43 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
Phone: (207) 287-1600
TTY: (207) 287-6431
Website: www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/

Maryland Department of Legislative Services

Legislative Services Building
90 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: (410) 946-5400
Email: libr@mlis.state.md.us
Website: http://mlis.state.md.us

Massachusetts Legislation

State House
Boston, MA 02133
House: (617) 722-3676
Senate: (617) 722-1660
Website: www.malegislature.gov

Michigan Clerk of the House

P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (517) 373-0135
Website: www.legislature.mi.gov

Michigan State Senate

P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (517) 373-2400
Website: www.legislature.mi.gov

Minnesota Legislative

Reference Library

State Office Building, Room 645
100 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: (651) 296-8338
Website: www.leg.state.mn.us

Mississippi Legislation

P.O. Box 1018
Jackson, MS 39215
House: (601) 359-3360
Senate: (601) 359-3229
Website: www.billstatus.ls.state.ms.us

Missouri Legislative Library

State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Phone: (573) 751-4633
Email: leg.library@lr.mo.gov
Website: www.moga.mo.gov

STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Montana Legislative Services Division

State Capitol, Room 110
1301 E. Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620
Phone: (406) 444-3064
Fax: (406) 444-3036
Website: <http://leg.mt.gov>

Nebraska Clerk of the Legislature

State Capitol, Room 2018
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509
Phone: (402) 471-2271
Website: www.nebraskalegislature.gov

Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau

Research Library
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: (775) 684-6827
Website: www.leg.state.nv.us

New Hampshire State Legislature

107 N. Main Street
Concord, NH 03301
House: (603) 271-3661
Senate: (603) 271-2111
Website: <http://gencourt.state.nh.us>

New Jersey Office of Legislative Services Office of Public Administration

State House Annex, Room 50
P.O. Box 068
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: (609) 292-4840
TDD: (609) 777-2744
Email: leginfo@njleg.org
Website: www.njleg.state.nj.us

New Mexico Legislative Council Service

411 State Capitol
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: (505) 986-4600
Email: lsc@nmlegis.gov
Website: www.nmlegis.gov/lcs

New York Assembly Public Information Office

Legislative Office Building, Room 202
Albany, NY 12248
Phone: (518) 455-4218
Fax: (518) 455-5175
Website: <http://assembly.state.ny.us>

New York Office of the Secretary of the Senate

State Capitol, Room 321
Albany, NY 12247
Phone: (518) 455-2051
Fax: (518) 426-6890
Website: www.senate.state.ny.us

North Carolina Legislative Services Office

State Legislative Building, Room 2129
16 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone: (919) 733-7044
Website: www.ncga.state.nc.us

North Dakota Legislative Council

State Capitol, Second Floor
600 E. Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505
Phone: (701) 328-2916
Fax: (701) 328-3615
Email: lcouncil@nd.gov
Website: www.legis.nd.gov

STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Ohio Office of the Clerk

State House
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 466-3357
Fax: (614) 644-8744
Website: www.house.state.oh.us

Oklahoma Law and Legislative Reference Division

Oklahoma Department of Libraries
State Capitol, Room B-8
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Phone: (405) 522-3212
Fax: (405) 521-2753
Website: www.odl.state.ok.us

Oregon State Legislature Legislative Administration Committee

900 Court Street, NE, Room 140A
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 986-1848
Email: scott.burgess@state.or.us
Website: www.leg.state.or.us

Pennsylvania Library, Legislative Reference Bureau

Main Capitol Building, Room 641
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone: (717) 787-4223
Fax: (717) 783-2396
Email: pasesslaws@palrb.us
Website: www.legis.state.pa.us

Puerto Rico Office of Legislative Services

P.O. Box 9023986
San Juan, PR 00902
Phone: (787) 721-5200
Email: contactosl@oslpr.org

State of Rhode Island Office of Library & Information Services

One Capitol Hill, 4th Floor
Providence, RI 02908
Phone: (401) 574-9300
Fax: (401) 574-9320
Website: www.state.ri.us

South Carolina Legislative Council

1000 Assembly Street, Room 434
P.O. Box 11489
Columbia, SC 29211
Phone: (803) 212-4500
Fax: (803) 212-4501
Website: www.scstatehouse.net

South Dakota Legislative Research Council

State Capitol, Third Floor
500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: (605) 773-3251
Fax: (605) 773-4576
Website: <http://legis.state.sd.us>

Tennessee Office of Legislative Information Services

Rachel Jackson Building, 7th Floor
320 Sixth Avenue N.
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: (615) 741-1100
Website: www.capitol.tn.gov

Texas Legislative Reference Library

P.O. Box 12488
Austin, TX 78711
Phone: (512) 463-1252
Fax: (512) 475-4626
Website: www.lrl.state.tx.us

STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

State Capitol, W210 House Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Phone: (801) 538-1032
Fax: (801) 538-1712
Website: www.le.utah.gov

Vermont Legislative Council

State House
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633
Phone: (802) 828-2231
Email: legcon@leg.state.vt.us
Website: www.leg.state.vt.us

Virginia Legislative Information Office

State Capitol, First Floor
P.O. Box 406
Richmond, VA 23218
Phone: (804) 698-1500
Fax: (804) 786-3215
Website: <http://legis.state.va.us>
Phone: (360) 786-7550
Fax: (360) 786-7520
Website: www.leg.wa.gov

Washington Legislative Information Center

106 Legislative Building
Olympia, WA 98504
Phone: (360) 786-7573
Email: support@leg.wa.gov
Website: www.leg.wa.gov

West Virginia Office Legislator's Office of Reference and Information Room MB-27

State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305
Phone: (304) 347-4836
Fax: (304) 347-4901
Website: www.legis.state.wv.us

Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau

1 E. Main Street, Second Floor
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: (608) 266-0341
Fax: (608) 266-5648
Website: www.legis.wisconsin.gov

Wyoming Legislative Service Office

213 State Capitol
Cheyenne, WY 82002
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