



2010 State Legislative Summary

NCCADV Agenda Items

State Funding

[SB 897 / SL 2010-31](#)

Effective Date: June 30, 2010

- General Appropriation: State funding from the general fund is cut by \$243,000 for a total of \$4,619,298 to be distributed to all recognized domestic violence programs.
- Marriage License Fees: Marriage license fees are maintained at \$30/license to be allocated to the Domestic Violence Center Fund.
- Divorce Fees: Divorce fees are maintained at \$20/fee to be allocated to the Domestic Violence Center Fund.

TANF Funding

[SB 897 / SL 2010-31](#)

Effective Date: June 30, 2010

TANF funding is increased by \$440,000 to the 2008 funding level of \$2.2 million for domestic violence services to WorkFirst participants. Funds shall be used to provide domestic violence counseling, support and other direct services to clients.

Protect Victims/DV Shelters

[SB 140 / SL 2010-5](#)

- Protects domestic violence shelters by providing immunity for certain harmful acts committed on the premises by a perpetrator.
This section effective June 7, 2010
- Creates a Class H felony for trespassing on the property of a safe house for victims of domestic violence if the offender is the subject of a domestic violence protected order and the protected party is residing at the safe house.
This section effective December 1, 2010

DV Cases/Review Criminal Record

[HB 1812 / SL 2010-135](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2010

Requires the judge to consider the defendant's criminal record when determining the conditions of pre-trial release in a criminal domestic violence case.

Recommendation of the Joint Legislative Committee on Domestic Violence

DV Training for Judges

[HB 1762 / SL 2010-106](#)

Effective Date: July 20, 2010

- Requests that the NC Supreme Court establish minimum standards of education and training for district court judges in handling domestic violence cases.
- Encourages the UNC School of Government to provide education and training opportunities for district court judges and magistrates in handling domestic violence cases.

Recommendation of the Joint Legislative Committee on Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Funds

SB 1240/HB 1788

Status: Did not pass; see funding items above.

- Appropriates \$6,862,298 (an increase of \$2 million) from the General Fund to be allocated to the Domestic Violence Center Fund.
- Appropriates \$2 million to the Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission to provide for matching grant funds for the construction of domestic violence shelters.
- Appropriates \$2 million from the General Fund to the Governor's Crime Commission to create new or continue existing supervised visitation and exchange centers.
- Appropriates \$1 million in the TANF Block Grant to DHHS to be used for domestic violence prevention and awareness initiatives.

Recommendation of the Joint Legislative Committee on Domestic Violence

Bills Supported by NCCADV

50B and 50C/Electronic Filing Pilot

[SB 897 / SL 2010-31](#)

Effective Date: June 30, 2010

Establishes a pilot program for electronic filing in Chapter 50B and Chapter 50C cases in District 15A (Alamance County).

Recommendation of the Joint Legislative Committee on Domestic Violence

Healthy Families / Healthy Workplaces Act

SB 534 / HB 177

Status: Did not pass.

Provides for paid sick days to covered employees which may be used to address the psychological, physical, or legal effects of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Housing Trust Fund Appropriation

Status: Maintained funding at \$10 million with state and federal funds.

The goal of the Campaign for Housing Carolina is to appropriate \$50 million to the Housing Finance Agency for the Housing Trust Fund to increase the availability of affordable housing in NC.

Other Bills of Interest

Victim's Compensation Fund

[SB 897 / SL 2010-31](#)

Effective Date: June 30, 2010

The Victims Compensation Fund is reduced by \$700,000 for this year only.

Chapter 50B Fee Clarification

[SB 897 / SL 2010-31](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2010

Clarifies that costs apply to any and all additional and subsequent actions filed by amendment or counterclaim to the original action brought under Chapter 50B UNLESS the subsequent amendment or counterclaim is limited to requests authorized by 50B.

Susie's Law

[SB 254 / SL 2010-16](#)

Effective Date: December 1, 2010

- Increases the penalty for maliciously killing any animal by intentional deprivation of necessary sustenance from a Class A1 misdemeanor to a Class H felony.
- Increases the penalty for maliciously torturing, mutilating, maiming, cruelly beating, disfiguring, poisoning, or killing any animal from a Class I felony to a Class H felony.

NC Human Trafficking Commission

SB 353

Status: Did not pass.

Creates a Human Trafficking Commission within the Department of Administration.

Nonprofit Grants/Increase Accountability

SB 1218/HB 1852

Status: Converted to a study bill; did not pass.

Authorizes the Legislative Research Commission to study how best to implement the recommendations of the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee with regard to improving accountability and oversight of State grants to nonprofit organizations.

NOTE: The original bill authorized state agencies to withhold up to 2% of the amount of the grant awarded each fiscal year to cover grant oversight costs.

To find the text of a bill, click on the link (for bills that passed) or go to www.ncleg.net and enter the bill number in the search box (H# or S#).

Prepared by the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence