

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE BILL 31\***

Short Title: DV Appropriations.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Boseman; Atwater, Cowell, and Snow.

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Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

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February 12, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS  
2 TO MEET INCREASED DEMANDS FOR SERVICES, TO INCREASE TANF  
3 FUNDS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION, TO APPROPRIATE  
4 FUNDS TO THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT TO EXPAND THE FAMILY  
5 COURT PROGRAM, TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE  
6 NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN AND THE DOMESTIC  
7 VIOLENCE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE MATCHING GRANT FUNDS FOR  
8 THE CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTERS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC  
9 VIOLENCE, TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE  
10 GOVERNOR'S CRIME COMMISSION TO CREATE AND FUND SUPERVISED  
11 VISITATION AND EXCHANGE CENTERS, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS  
12 TO ADJUST THE SALARY AND BENEFITS FOR THE ABUSER TREATMENT  
13 PROGRAM COORDINATOR POSITION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT  
14 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.  
15

16 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

17 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the North  
18 Carolina Council for Women, the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the  
19 2007-2008 fiscal year. These funds shall be for domestic violence programs funded by  
20 the Council for Women and the Domestic Violence Commission to be used by local  
21 programs to meet increased demands for services to domestic violence victims.

22 **SECTION 2.** The sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) appropriated in  
23 the TANF Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of  
24 Social Services, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used for Domestic Violence  
25 Prevention and Awareness and shall be used for grants to support initiatives by local  
26 domestic violence programs to prevent domestic violence. Prevention activities shall  
27 include efforts to reach underserved populations and shall be culturally sensitive and  
28 multilingual. The Department shall award grants to community-based organizations  
29 that demonstrate the ability to collaborate and coordinate services with other local

1 human services agencies and organizations in order to serve children and families where  
2 domestic violence has occurred or is occurring. The Department shall report on the use  
3 of these funds no later than May 1, 2008, to the Senate Appropriations Committee on  
4 Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations  
5 Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

6 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Judicial  
7 Department the sum of five hundred forty-three thousand one hundred twelve dollars  
8 (\$543,112) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year for the purpose of expanding the family court  
9 pilot program established in Section 25 of S.L. 1998-202. The funds shall be used to  
10 establish family courts in two additional district court districts to be selected by the  
11 Administrative Office of the Courts.

12 **SECTION 4.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
13 Department of Administration the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the  
14 2007-2008 fiscal year to be allocated to the North Carolina Council for Women and the  
15 Domestic Violence Commission to provide for matching grant funds. The Council shall  
16 make grants as follows:

- 17 (1) For the construction of new shelters for victims of domestic violence.  
18 For purposes of this subdivision, "new construction" shall include  
19 additions to existing shelters if the additional construction increases  
20 the residential space for victims of domestic violence.
- 21 (2) For the purchase of existing space for use as a domestic violence  
22 shelter.
- 23 (3) To assist in the payment of construction debt for existing domestic  
24 violence shelters.

25 **SECTION 4.(b)** In determining grant awards, the Council shall establish  
26 grant criteria to include the following:

- 27 (1) The availability of shelter facilities in the county where the shelter  
28 would be located or is currently located.
- 29 (2) The number of persons currently served or the approximate number of  
30 persons to be served by the facility.
- 31 (3) The requirements under G.S. 50B-9(2) and (3) for the receipt of  
32 funding.

33 **SECTION 4.(c)** Funds provided for under this section shall be matched  
34 one-for-one by the applicant. The Council shall not provide more than fifty thousand  
35 dollars (\$50,000) in a fiscal year to any applicant.

36 **SECTION 4.(d)** The Council shall distribute grants semiannually. The  
37 Council must receive applications for grants by September 30 of each year for grant  
38 awards to be distributed on or after November 1, and no later than March 31 of each  
39 year for grant awards to be distributed on or after May 1.

40 **SECTION 4.(e)** Funds appropriated in this act shall not revert to the General  
41 Fund but shall remain with the Council for the purposes described in this act.

42 **SECTION 5.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
43 Department of Crime Control and Public Safety the sum of two million dollars  
44 (\$2,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to be allocated to the Governor's Crime

1 Commission to create new supervised visitation and exchange centers and to continue  
2 funding existing supervised visitation and exchange centers in this State. The  
3 Commission shall distribute the funds through its grant process.

4           **SECTION 6.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
5 Department of Administration the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) for the  
6 2007-2008 fiscal year to be allocated to the North Carolina Council for Women and the  
7 Domestic Violence Commission to adjust the amount appropriated for the Abuser  
8 Treatment Program Coordinator position to address inadequacies in both the salary and  
9 associated benefits for this position.

10           **SECTION 7.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.