

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 909\*

Short Title: Domestic Violence Study.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Bowie, Insko; Adams, Aldridge, Baddour, Baker, Berry, Bonner, Braswell, Brown, Cansler, Clary, Creech, Culp, Daughtry, Davis, Dedmon, Dickson, Earle, Easterling, Eddins, Goodwin, Gulley, Hensley, Hightower, Jarrell, Jeffus, Justus, Luebke, McAllister, McComas, McMahan, Michaux, Moore, Morris, Mosley, Neely, Nesbitt, Preston, Rayfield, Reynolds, Russell, Saunders, Sexton, Sherrill, Shubert, Smith, Wainwright, Warwick, Watson, Weatherly, and G. Wilson.

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Referred to: Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House.

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April 10, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STUDY COMMISSION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. (a) There is established the Domestic Violence Study Commission.  
The Commission shall consist of 23 members appointed as follows:

(1) Eleven members appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, six of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives. Of the remaining five members:

a. One shall be a representative of a domestic violence program serving a rural community;

b. One shall be a representative from a police department in a municipality with a population of 50,000 or greater;

c. One shall be a district court judge;

d. One shall be a victim of domestic violence; and

- 1 e. One shall be a representative of the North Carolina Council for  
2 Women;
- 3 (2) Eleven members appointed by the General Assembly upon the  
4 recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, six of  
5 whom shall be members of the Senate. Of the remaining five members:  
6 a. One shall be a representative of a domestic violence program  
7 serving an urban community;  
8 b. One shall be a representative from a police department in a  
9 municipality with a population of less than 50,000;  
10 c. One shall be a district attorney;  
11 d. One shall be a victim of domestic violence; and  
12 e. One shall be a member of the North Carolina Coalition Against  
13 Domestic Violence; and  
14 (3) One member appointed by the Governor representing Covenant with  
15 North Carolina's Children.

16 All appointments shall be made not later than September 1, 1997. Vacancies  
17 shall be filled by the person making the initial appointment.

18 (b) The Commission shall conduct a study of domestic violence. The study  
19 shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- 20 (1) The level of effectiveness of current laws and services in preventing and  
21 addressing domestic violence, and ways in which data collection and  
22 analysis can be improved to enhance effectiveness;  
23 (2) The most efficient and effective uses of funding for domestic violence  
24 programs and services;  
25 (3) Whether there should be uniformity across the State for effective  
26 handling of domestic violence situations by local law enforcement and  
27 judicial officials;  
28 (4) Strategies for involving the private sector in domestic violence  
29 prevention and intervention activities; and  
30 (5) Other matters the Commission deems appropriate to study.

31 (c) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro  
32 Tempore of the Senate shall each designate a cochair of the Commission. The  
33 Commission shall meet upon the call of the cochairs. A quorum of the Commission is 12  
34 members. While in the discharge of its official duties, the Commission has the powers of  
35 a joint committee under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1.

36 Members of the Commission shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel  
37 allowances in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate.

38 The Legislative Administrative Officer shall assign as staff to the Commission  
39 professional employees of the General Assembly. Clerical staff shall be assigned to the  
40 Commission through the Offices of the Supervisor of Clerks of the Senate and Supervisor  
41 of Clerks of the House of Representatives.

42 (d) The Commission may report to the 1997 General Assembly, Regular  
43 Session 1998, and shall submit a final report, including recommendations, to the 1999

1 General Assembly upon its convening. A report to the General Assembly shall be  
2 submitted to the Legislative Library. The Commission shall terminate upon filing its  
3 final report.

4 Section 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General  
5 Assembly, Legislative Services Office, the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for  
6 the 1997-98 fiscal year and the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for the 1998-99  
7 fiscal year to carry out the study established in this act.

8 Section 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997.