



Together we can end relationship abuse

Closing loopholes of Civil Protection Orders: Increasing safety for survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking.

Bill Sponsors: Majority Leader Duran & Minority Leader Pugliese
Assistant Majority Leader Winter & Senator Roberts

1 in 7 Coloradans
has experienced
relationship violence

Too many Coloradans live in fear for their safety each day. Civil protection orders are a key tool used by survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking to find safety from abuse and violence without filing criminal charges. **HB24-1122** takes important steps to reduce barriers for survivors in court and improve survivor safety.

What will this Bill accomplish:

Define domestic violence and sexual violence: Survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking face unique barriers in accessing support and navigating the criminal justice system. This bill broadens the definition of domestic violence, changes sexual abuse to sexual violence including sexual harassment, and reframes them as patterns of behavior to better reflect the experiences of Colorado survivors.

Improve survivor safety: Survivors frequently face a lack of understanding of the pervasive, unseen and long-lasting impacts of relationship violence. HB24-1122 removes the harmful “imminent danger” standard, which inaccurately ties violence to timeframe and severity. This bill requires judges to evaluate a case based on the risk or threat of harm without regard to when the last incident may have occurred or if the violence is expected to continue. This important change will make it easier for survivors of sexual violence to pursue protection orders and validates the continued emotional distress that many survivors experience.

Reduce barriers for survivors: One of the reasons a survivor may not seek a civil protection order is to protect their children from an abusive parent. This bill ensures that courts include temporary care and control of any shared children in the civil protection order when requested by one of the parties and prohibits judicial officers from redirecting survivors to file in district court when they are otherwise eligible to file in county court.

Cut down on abusive litigation: Abusers continue to assert power and control over survivors by forcing them to fight frivolous and expensive motions in court. This bill prohibits the court from hearing a motion to dismiss or modify a civil protection order if filed incorrectly and protects survivors from paying the abuser’s attorney’s fees.

Transfer shared phone lines into a survivor’s name and control: Abusers frequently surveil survivors and cut them off from getting help by maintaining account ownership over shared phone lines. HB24-1122 directs cellphone companies to transfer shared phone lines into the survivor’s name and control if requested along with a civil protection order.

Support Colorado survivors by voting YES on HB24-1122

Supporting Organizations:



About Violence Free Colorado: Founded in 1977, Violence Free Colorado is Colorado’s domestic violence coalition. We work with hundreds of organizations and individuals in local communities across the state to prevent and end relationship violence, build the capacity of a diverse network of domestic violence and community-based programs across our state to help them effectively assist survivors and their families.

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