

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

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SENATE BILL 401

Short Title: Ensure Same-Sex Domestic Violence Prot. Order. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Murdock and Meyer (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 30, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ENSURE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDERS ARE AVAILABLE
3 FOR SAME-SEX COUPLES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 50B-1(b) reads as rewritten:

6 "(b) For purposes of this section, the term "personal relationship" means a relationship
7 wherein the parties ~~involved~~involved either:

8 (1) Are current or former ~~spouses~~spouses.

9 (2) Are persons ~~of opposite sex~~ who live together or have lived ~~together~~together.

10 (3) Are related as parents and children, including others acting in loco parentis to
11 a minor child, or as grandparents and grandchildren. For purposes of this
12 subdivision, an aggrieved party may not obtain an order of protection against
13 a child or grandchild under the age of ~~16~~16.

14 (4) Have a child in ~~common~~common.

15 (5) Are current or former household ~~members~~members.

16 (6) Are persons ~~of the opposite sex~~ who are in a dating relationship or have been
17 in a dating relationship. For purposes of this subdivision, a dating relationship
18 is one wherein the parties are romantically involved over time and on a
19 continuous basis during the course of the relationship. A casual acquaintance
20 or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context is
21 not a dating relationship."

22 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to domestic
23 violence protective orders issued on or after that date.



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