

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

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**HOUSE BILL 46\*  
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/5/07**

Short Title: DV Victims/Security.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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January 31, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO DETERMINE WHETHER SECURITY GUIDELINES ARE NEEDED  
3 FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS OPERATED BY STATE-FUNDED  
4 AGENCIES AND TO PROVIDE, WHERE FEASIBLE, SECURE AREAS FOR  
5 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS TO AWAIT HEARING OF THEIR COURT  
6 CASE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON  
7 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9       **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina Council for Women/Domestic Violence  
10 Commission (Council), in cooperation with the North Carolina Coalition Against  
11 Domestic Violence, shall review the guidelines that agencies must meet in order to  
12 receive State funds through the Council. The Council shall consider whether there  
13 should be specific guidelines designed to ensure safety at domestic violence shelters that  
14 are operated by State-funded agencies.

15       The Council shall report to the Joint Legislative Committee on Domestic  
16 Violence no later than May 1, 2008, on the results of the review.

17       **SECTION 2.** Where practical, upon request of a domestic violence victim,  
18 the clerk of Superior Court of any county shall coordinate with the county Sheriff to  
19 make available to the victim a secure area, segregated from the general population of  
20 the courtroom, to await hearing of their court case. The Clerk shall notify the presiding  
21 judge on the date of the hearing that the victim is present in a segregated location.

22       The Administrative Office of the Courts shall report to the Joint Legislative  
23 Committee on Domestic Violence no later than May 1, 2008, on the progress of  
24 providing the space in each courthouse.

25       **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.