

Introduced by

Senators Poolman, Kreun, Unruh, Nelson

Representatives Blum, O'Brien

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 14-07.1 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the establishment of a domestic violence court pilot project; and to  
3 amend and reenact section 12-60-23, subsection 9 of section 12.1-31.2-01, subsections 1 and  
4 3 of section 12.1-31.2-02, section 14-07.1-02, and subsections 4 and 5 of section 14-07.1-03 of  
5 the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the issuance, transmittal, and registry of protection  
6 orders and orders prohibiting contact.

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

8 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 12-60-23 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10 **12-60-23. Bureau to maintain registry of protection orders, orders prohibiting contact,**  
11 **and restraining orders.**

12 The bureau shall maintain a registry of all orders of which it receives notice under sections  
13 11-15-32, 12.1-31.2-02, 14-07.1-02, and 14-07.1-03.

14 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 9 of section 12.1-31.2-01 of the North Dakota  
15 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

16 9. ~~The clerk of court shall transmit a copy of a restraining order by the close of the~~  
17 ~~business day on which the order was granted to the local law enforcement agency~~  
18 ~~with jurisdiction over the residence of the alleged victim of disorderly conduct. Each~~  
19 ~~appropriate law enforcement agency may make available to its officers current~~  
20 ~~information as to the existence and status of any restraining order involving disorderly~~  
21 ~~conduct.~~Whenever a restraining order is issued, extended, modified, or terminated  
22 under this section, the court shall transmit the order electronically to the bureau.  
23 Unless the order is a temporary order under subsection 4, the bureau shall enter the  
24 order electronically in the national crime information center database provided by the

1 federal bureau of investigation, or its successor agency. The sheriff of the county in  
2 which the order was issued shall maintain and respond to inquiries regarding the order  
3 in the national crime information center database provided by the federal bureau of  
4 investigation, or its successor agency, pursuant to bureau and federal requirements.  
5 Whenever a restraining order is issued, the clerk of court shall forward a copy of the  
6 order to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the residence of the  
7 protected party by the close of business on the day the restraining order is issued.  
8 Once the bureau, after consultation with the state court administrator, determines and  
9 implements an electronic method to notify the sheriff of the county that issued the  
10 order, the clerk of court's requirement to forward the order to a law enforcement  
11 agency will be satisfied.

12 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subsections 1 and 3 of section 12.1-31.2-02 of the North  
13 Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

- 14 1. If an individual who is charged with or arrested for a crime of violence or threat of  
15 violence, stalking, harassment, or a sex offense is released from custody before  
16 arraignment or trial, the court authorizing the release of the individual shall consider  
17 and may issue, ~~if there is no outstanding restraining or protection order prohibiting the~~  
18 ~~individual from having contact with the victim,~~ an order prohibiting the individual from  
19 having contact with the victim. The order must contain the court's directives and must  
20 inform the individual that any violation of the order constitutes a criminal offense. The  
21 state's attorney shall provide a copy of the order to the victim. The court shall  
22 determine at the time of the individual's arraignment whether an order issued pursuant  
23 to this section will be extended. If the court issues an order pursuant to this section  
24 before the time the individual is charged, the order expires at the individual's  
25 arraignment or within seventy-two hours of issuance if charges against the individual  
26 are not filed.
- 27 3. Whenever an order prohibiting contact is issued, modified, extended, or terminated  
28 under this section, the clerk of court shall forward a copy of the order within one  
29 business day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon  
30 receipt of the copy of the order, the law enforcement agency shall enter the order ~~for~~  
31 ~~one year or until the date of expiration specified by the order into any information~~

1 system available in the state that is used by law enforcement agencies to list  
2 outstanding warrants. The order is enforceable in any jurisdiction in this state in the  
3 central warrant information system and the national crime information center database  
4 provided by the federal bureau of investigation, or its successor agency.

5 a. Once the bureau, after consultation with the state court administrator, determines  
6 and implements a method to transmit electronically to the bureau an order  
7 prohibiting contact, the court electronically shall send the full text of the order as  
8 issued, modified, extended, or terminated in accordance with this section and any  
9 data fields identified by the bureau. This electronic submission will fulfill the law  
10 enforcement agency's requirement to enter the order in the central warrant  
11 information system, but will not fulfill its requirement to enter, maintain, and  
12 respond to inquiries regarding the order in the national crime information center  
13 database provided by the federal bureau of investigation, or its successor  
14 agency.

15 b. Once the bureau, after consultation with the state court administrator, determines  
16 and implements an electronic method to notify law enforcement about the order,  
17 the clerk of court's requirement to forward the order to the law enforcement  
18 agency will be satisfied.

19 c. Once the bureau, after consultation with the director of state radio, determines  
20 and implements a method to enter the order into the national crime information  
21 center database provided by the federal bureau of investigation, or its successor  
22 agency, the bureau shall enter the order electronically in the national crime  
23 information center database provided by the federal bureau of investigation, or its  
24 successor agency. This electronic entry will fulfill the law enforcement agency's  
25 requirement to enter the order in the national crime information center database  
26 provided by the federal bureau of investigation, or its successor agency, but will  
27 not fulfill its requirement to maintain and respond to inquiries regarding the order  
28 in the national crime information center database provided by the federal bureau  
29 of investigation, or its successor agency.

30 **SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 14-07.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
31 and enacted as follows:

1        **Domestic violence court.**

2        The district court may require an individual who has committed a crime involving domestic  
3 violence, as defined in this chapter, or who has violated a domestic violence protection order to  
4 complete domestic violence treatment under the direction of the domestic violence court  
5 program as a condition of probation in accordance with rules adopted by the supreme court. If  
6 the district court finds a defendant has failed to undergo an evaluation or complete treatment or  
7 has violated any condition of probation, the district court shall revoke the defendant's probation  
8 and shall sentence the defendant in accordance with chapter 12.1-32.

9        **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-07.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

11        **14-07.1-02. Domestic violence protection order.**

- 12        1. An action for a protection order commenced by a verified application alleging the  
13        existence of domestic violence may be brought in district court by any family or  
14        household member or by any other person if the court determines that the relationship  
15        between that person and the alleged abusing person is sufficient to warrant the  
16        issuance of a domestic violence protection order. An action may be brought under this  
17        section, regardless of whether a petition for legal separation, annulment, or divorce  
18        has been filed.
- 19        2. Upon receipt of the application, the court shall order a hearing to be held not later than  
20        fourteen days from the date of the hearing order, or at a later date if good cause is  
21        shown.
- 22        3. Service must be made upon the respondent at least five days prior to the hearing. If  
23        service cannot be made, the court may set a new date.
- 24        4. Upon a showing of actual or imminent domestic violence, the court may enter a  
25        protection order after due notice and full hearing. The relief provided by the court may  
26        include any or all of the following:
  - 27        a. Restraining any party from threatening, molesting, injuring, harassing, or having  
28        contact with any other person.
  - 29        b. Excluding either the respondent or any person with whom the respondent lives  
30        from the dwelling they share, from the residence of another person against whom  
31        the domestic violence is occurring, or from a domestic violence care facility, if this

- 1 exclusion is necessary to the physical or mental well-being of the applicant or  
2 others.
- 3 c. Awarding temporary custody or establishing temporary visitation rights with  
4 regard to minor children.
- 5 d. Recommending or requiring that either or both parties undergo counseling with a  
6 domestic violence program or other agency that provides professional services  
7 that the court deems appropriate. The court may request a report from the  
8 designated agency within a time period established by the court. The costs of the  
9 court-ordered initial counseling assessment and subsequent reports must be  
10 borne by the parties or, if indigent, by the respondent's county of residence.
- 11 e. Requiring a party to pay such support as may be necessary for the support of a  
12 party and any minor children of the parties and reasonable attorney's fees and  
13 costs.
- 14 f. Awarding temporary use of personal property, including motor vehicles, to either  
15 party.
- 16 g. Requiring the respondent to surrender for safekeeping any firearm or other  
17 specified dangerous weapon, as defined in section 12.1-01-04, in the  
18 respondent's immediate possession or control or subject to the respondent's  
19 immediate control, if the court has probable cause to believe that the respondent  
20 is likely to use, display, or threaten to use the firearm or other dangerous weapon  
21 in any further acts of violence. If so ordered, the respondent shall surrender the  
22 firearm or other dangerous weapon to the sheriff, or the sheriff's designee, of the  
23 county in which the respondent resides or to the chief of police, or the chief's  
24 designee, of the city in which the respondent resides.
- 25 5. A court of competent jurisdiction may issue a dual protection order restricting both  
26 parties involved in a domestic violence dispute if each party has commenced an action  
27 pursuant to subsection 1 and the court, after a hearing, has made specific written  
28 findings of fact that both parties committed acts of domestic violence and that neither  
29 party acted in self-defense. The order must clearly define the responsibilities and  
30 restrictions placed upon each party so that a law enforcement officer may readily  
31 determine which party has violated the order if a violation is alleged to have occurred.

- 1       6. The court may amend its order or agreement at any time upon subsequent petition  
2       filed by either party.
- 3       7. No order or agreement under this section affects title to any real property in any  
4       matter.
- 5       8. The petition for an order for protection must contain a statement listing each civil or  
6       criminal action involving both parties.
- 7       9. Upon the application of an individual residing within the state, a court may issue a  
8       domestic violence protection order or an ex parte temporary protection order under  
9       this chapter even though the actions constituting domestic violence occurred  
10      exclusively outside the state. In these cases, a respondent is subject to the personal  
11      jurisdiction of this state upon entry into this state. If the domestic violence justifying the  
12      issuance of a protection order under this chapter occurred exclusively outside the  
13      state, the relief that may be granted is limited to an order restraining the party from  
14      having contact with or committing acts of domestic violence on another person in this  
15      state.
- 16     10. Whenever a protection order is issued, extended, modified, or terminated under this  
17     section, the court shall transmit the order electronically to the bureau. The bureau shall  
18     enter the order electronically in the national crime information center database  
19     provided by the federal bureau of investigation, or its successor agency. The sheriff of  
20     the county in which the order was issued shall maintain and respond to inquiries  
21     regarding the record in the national crime information center database provided by the  
22     federal bureau of investigation, or its successor agency, pursuant to bureau and  
23     federal requirements. Whenever a protection order is issued, the clerk of court shall  
24     forward a copy of the order to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over  
25     the residence of the protected party by the close of business on the day the protection  
26     order is issued. Once the bureau, after consultation with the state court administrator,  
27     determines and implements an electronic method to notify the sheriff of the county that  
28     issued the order, the clerk of court's requirement to forward the order to a law  
29     enforcement agency will be satisfied.

30       **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Subsections 4 and 5 of section 14-07.1-03 of the North Dakota  
31 Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

- 1           4. A full hearing as provided by section 14-07.1-02 must be set for not later than fourteen  
2           days from the issuance of the temporary order, or at a later date if good cause is  
3           shown. The respondent must be served forthwith with a copy of the ex parte order  
4           along with a copy of the application and notice of the date set for the hearing.
- 5           5. ~~The clerk of court shall transmit a copy of each temporary protection order, or~~  
6           ~~extension, modification, or termination thereof, by the close of the business day on~~  
7           ~~which the order was granted to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over~~  
8           ~~the residence of the applicant or over the residence at which the actual domestic~~  
9           ~~violence that is the subject of the temporary protection order has occurred, or is likely~~  
10          ~~to occur, if requested by the applicant and approved by the court. Each appropriate~~  
11          ~~law enforcement agency may make available information as to the existence and~~  
12          ~~current status of any temporary protection order issued pursuant to this section,~~  
13          ~~through an existing verification system, to any law enforcement officer responding to~~  
14          ~~the scene of reported domestic violence~~Whenever a temporary protection order is  
15          issued, extended, modified, or terminated under this section, the court shall transmit  
16          the order electronically to the bureau. Whenever a temporary protection order is  
17          issued, the clerk of court shall forward a copy of the order to the local law enforcement  
18          agency with jurisdiction over the residence of the protected party by the close of  
19          business on the day the order is issued. Once the bureau, after consultation with the  
20          state court administrator, determines and implements an electronic method to notify  
21          the sheriff of the county that issued the order, the clerk of court's requirement to  
22          forward the order will be satisfied.