GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL 784

Short Title:	Ensure Same-Sex Domestic Violence Prot. Order.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senator Bradley (Primary Sponsor).	
Referred to:	Rules and Operations of the Senate	

April 22, 2026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ENSURE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SAME-SEX COUPLES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Administrative Office of the Courts five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to be used to establish a public awareness and prevention campaign regarding domestic violence within same-sex relationships.

SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to domestic violence protection orders issued on or after that date.