GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2025

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HOUSE BILL 182 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H182-PCS40184-CI-3

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35 36 **Short Title:** Rev. Law Perm. Protect Order/Child Abuse. (Public) Sponsors: Referred to: February 25, 2025 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO ALLOW A JUDGE TO ISSUE A PERMANENT NO CONTACT ORDER AGAINST A DEFENDANT CONVICTED OF CERTAIN VIOLENT OFFENSES AND TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS FELONY CHILD ABUSE FOR ANY PERSON PROVIDING CARE TO OR SUPERVISION OF A CHILD LESS THAN SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE TO COMMIT OR ALLOW THE COMMISSION OF A SEXUAL ACT UPON THE CHILD. The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: PART I. ALLOWING JUDGE TO ISSUE A PERMANENT NO CONTACT ORDER AGAINST A DEFENDANT CONVICTED OF CERTAIN VIOLENT OFFENSES **SECTION 1.(a)** Article 81D of Chapter 15A of the General Statutes reads as rewritten: "Article 81D. "Permanent No Contact Order Against Convicted Sex-Violent Offender. "§ 15A-1340.50. Permanent no contact order prohibiting future contact by convicted sex violent offender with crime victim. The following definitions apply in this Article: (a) Permanent no contact order. – A permanent injunction that prohibits any (1) contact by a defendant with the victim of the sex-violent offense for which the defendant is convicted, convicted, with the victim's immediate family, or both. The duration of the injunction is the lifetime of the defendant. Sex offense. Any criminal offense that requires registration under Article (2)27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes. Victim. – The person against whom the sex violent offense was committed. (3) Violent offense. – Any of the following: (4) A criminal offense that requires registration under Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes. A Class A through G felony that is not otherwise covered under <u>b.</u> sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision. An offense under subsection (b) of G.S. 14-32.4. c. When sentencing a defendant convicted of a sex-violent offense, the judge, at the

- request of the district attorney, shall determine whether to issue a permanent no contact order. The judge shall order the defendant to show cause why a permanent no contact order shall not be issued and shall hold a show cause hearing as part of the sentencing procedures for the defendant.
- (c) The victim victim, the victim's immediate family, or both shall have a right to be heard at the show cause hearing.



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- At the conclusion of the show cause hearing the judge shall enter a finding for or (e) against the defendant. If the judge determines that reasonable grounds exist for the victim, the victim's immediate family, or both to fear any future contact with the defendant, the judge shall issue the permanent no contact order. The judge shall enter written findings of fact and the grounds on which the permanent no contact order is issued. If any member of the victim's immediate family is included in the permanent no contact order, they must be specifically identified. The no contact order shall be incorporated into the judgment imposing the sentence on the defendant for the conviction of the sex-violent offense.
- The court may grant one or more of the following forms of relief in a permanent no (f) contact order under this Article:
 - (1) Order the defendant not to threaten, visit, assault, molest, or otherwise interfere with the victim. victim, the victim's immediate family, or both.
 - Order the defendant not to follow the victim, the victim's immediate family, (2) or both, including at the victim's each individual's workplace.
 - Order the defendant not to harass the victim.victim, the victim's immediate (3) family, or both.
 - Order the defendant not to abuse or injure the victim.victim, the victim's (4) immediate family, or both.
 - (5) Order the defendant not to contact the victim-victim, the victim's immediate family, or both by telephone, written communication, or electronic means.
 - Order the defendant to refrain from entering or remaining present at the (6) victim's residence, school, place of employment, school, or place of employment of the victim, the victim's immediate family, or both, or other specified places at times when the victim-victim, the victim's immediate family, or both are present.
 - (7) Order other relief deemed necessary and appropriate by the court.
- At any time after the issuance of the order, the State, at the request of the victim, or (h) the defendant may make a motion to rescind or modify the permanent no contact order. If the court determines that reasonable grounds for the victim-victim, the victim's immediate family, or both to fear any future contact with the defendant no longer exist, the court may rescind or modify the permanent no contact order.

SECTION 1.(b) This section becomes effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

PART II. CLARIFYING CHANGES TO FELONY CHILD ABUSE LAWS

SECTION 2.(a) G.S. 14-318.4 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-318.4. Child abuse a felony.

- A parent or any other person providing care to or supervision of a child less than 16 years of age who intentionally inflicts any serious physical injury upon or to the child or who intentionally commits an assault upon the child which results in any serious physical injury to the child is guilty of a Class D felony, except as otherwise provided in subsection (a3) of this section.
- Any A parent or any other person providing care to or supervision of a child less than 16 years of age, or any other person providing care to or supervision of the child, age who commits, permits, or encourages any act of prostitution with or by the child is guilty of child abuse and shall be punished as a Class D felon.

- (a2) Any A parent or legal guardian of any other person providing care to or supervision of a child less than 16 years of age who commits or allows the commission of any sexual act upon the child is guilty of a Class D felony.
- (a3) A parent or any other person providing care to or supervision of a child less than 16 years of age who intentionally inflicts any serious bodily injury to the child or who intentionally commits an assault upon the child which results in any serious bodily injury to the child, or which results in permanent or protracted loss or impairment of any mental or emotional function of the child, is guilty of a Class B2 felony.
- (a4) A parent or any other person providing care to or supervision of a child less than 16 years of age who, for the purpose of causing fear, emotional injury, or deriving sexual gratification, intentionally and routinely (i) inflicts physical injury on that child and (ii) deprives that child of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or proper physical care is guilty of a Class B2 felony.
- (a4)(a5) A parent or any other person providing care to or supervision of a child less than 16 years of age whose willful act or grossly negligent omission in the care of the child shows a reckless disregard for human life is guilty of a Class E felony if the act or omission results in serious bodily injury to the child.
- (a5)(a7) A parent or any other person providing care to or supervision of a child less than 16 years of age whose willful act or grossly negligent omission in the care of the child shows a reckless disregard for human life is guilty of a Class G felony if the act or omission results in serious physical injury to the child.
- (a6) For purposes of this section, a "grossly negligent omission" in providing care to or supervision of a child includes the failure to report a child as missing to law enforcement as provided in G.S. 14-318.5(b).
- (b) The felony of child abuse is an offense additional to other civil and criminal provisions and is not intended to repeal or preclude any other sanctions or remedies.
- (c) Abandonment of an infant less than seven days of age pursuant to G.S. 14-322.3 may be treated as a mitigating factor in sentencing for a conviction under this section involving that infant.
 - (d) The following definitions apply in this section:
 - (1) <u>Grossly negligent omission.</u> In the context of providing care to or supervision of a child, this term includes the failure to report a child as missing to law enforcement as provided in G.S. 14-318.5(b).
 - (2) Serious bodily injury. Bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death or that causes serious permanent disfigurement, coma, a permanent or protracted condition that causes extreme pain, or permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or that results in prolonged hospitalization.
 - (2)(3) Serious physical injury. Physical injury that causes great pain and suffering. The term includes serious mental injury."

SECTION 2.(b) This section becomes effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

PART III. SAVINGS CLAUSE & EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 3.(a) Prosecutions for offenses committed before the effective date of this act are not abated or affected by this act, and the statutes that would be applicable but for this act remain applicable to those prosecutions.

SECTION 3.(b) Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.