

2007 North Carolina Women's Legislative Agenda

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

- ♀ *H879/S1182, Modify School Health Education Program.* Make honest, realistic sex education part of the core curriculum for North Carolina Public Schools, consisting of age-appropriate, medically accurate health education including both STD and pregnancy prevention.
- ♀ *H248/S752, Adult Care Homes Star Rating Authorization/Funds.* Create a star-rating system for adult care homes.
- ♀ *H98/S59, Home & Community Care Block Grant Funds.* Increase Home and Community Care Block Grant Funds.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION & EQUALITY

- ♀ *H1517/S1205 & S1261, Voter-Owned Elections for Council of State and Legislative Candidates.* Expand the current Voter-Owned Public Financing program for statewide judicial candidates.
- ♀ *H1366, School Violence Prevention.* Requires school systems to adopt strong policies against bullying and harassment.
- ♀ *H1789/S1534, Non-Discrimination in State Employment.* Protects state employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation.
- ♀ *H91/S195, Registration and Voting at One-Stop Sites.* Allows a person who misses the cut-off for registration to go to a One-Stop voting site, show proper ID, register and vote on the same day.

ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY

- ♀ *H1711, Establish Paid Sick Days.* Paid sick leave for all employees.
- ♀ *S1092, Provide Unpaid Sick Days.* Unpaid sick leave for all employees.
- ♀ *H182/S459, Housing Trust Fund Appropriation.* \$50 million for the Housing Trust Fund for affordable housing.
- ♀ *H51/S7, Rewarding Work Tax Credit.* North Carolina Earned Income Tax Credit at a rate of 10%.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- ♀ *H961/S968, Compassionate Care for Victims of Sexual Assault.* Ensure that survivors of sexual assault receive emergency contraception on-site in hospital emergency departments.
- ♀ *H44, DV Orders/Repeat Violators.* Strengthens the enforcement of domestic violence protective orders by reducing the number of prior convictions required from three prior convictions to one prior conviction to charge offenders with a Class H felony.
- ♀ *H1810, VAWA 2005 Compliance.* Brings NC into compliance with the Violence Against Women Act of 2005 to prevent loss of federal funding; ensures that criminal justice agencies may not require polygraph examinations of victims of sexual assault; and mandates that the Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop a form that notifies criminal defendants of federal firearm laws.
- ♀ *H47, Violate Order/Possess Deadly Weapon.* Creates a Class I felony for violation of a domestic violence protective order while armed with a deadly weapon.
- ♀ *S30, DV Victims/Add Protections.* Amends the name change statute so that a public posting is not required for victims of domestic violence, sexual offense, or stalking who provide appropriate documentation; amends the Crime Victims' Rights Act so that a violation of a domestic violence protective order is included as a "crime" for the purposes of the Act.
- ♀ *H43/S31, Domestic Violence Appropriations.* Increases state funding by \$2 million for domestic violence programs funded by the Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission; reinstates TANF funding in the amount of \$1 million to support local domestic violence prevention and awareness initiatives; provides for matching grant funds for the construction of domestic violence shelters in the amount of \$2 million; and appropriates \$2 million to fund supervised visitation and exchange centers.

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Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of NC, American Association of University Women NC, Business and Professional Women of NC, Carteret County Women's Resource Center, Democracy North Carolina, Equality NC, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Greensboro Commission on the Status of Women, Interact, IPAS, League of Women Voters of NC, NARAL Pro-Choice North Carolina, National Association of Social Workers - NC Chapter, North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys, NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault, NC Justice Center, North Carolina NOW, Orange County Department of Human Rights and Relations/Commission for Women, Peace College, Planned Parenthood of Central NC, Planned Parenthood Health Systems, Population Connection, Triangle Older Women's League, The Sisko Foundation, The Women's Center in Chapel Hill, The Women's Forum, Women's Resource Center in Hickory, Women's Resource Center in Alamance County, and WILPF-Triangle.