

CHAPTER 303

[Substitute Senate Bill No. 3254]
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AN ACT Relating to domestic violence; amending RCW 26.50.020, 26.50.030, 26.50.035, 26.50.040, 26.50.060, 26.50.090, 26.50.200, 9A.36.040, 10.31.100, 10.99.040, 46.64.015, 10.99.050, 3.46.030, and 3.50.020; and providing an effective date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 3, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 26.50.020 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Any person may seek relief under this chapter by filing a petition with a court alleging that the person has been the victim of domestic violence committed by the respondent. The person may petition for relief on behalf of himself or herself and on behalf of minor family or household members.

(2) ~~The courts defined in RCW 26.50.010(3) have jurisdiction over proceedings under this chapter. ((If a proceeding under chapter 26.09, 26.12, or 26.26 RCW is commenced in a superior court before or after the filing of an action in a district or municipal court under this chapter, then the superior court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over proceedings under this chapter. Any municipal or district court order entered while that court had jurisdiction remains valid until superseded by a superior court order.))~~ The jurisdiction of district or municipal courts under this chapter shall be limited to the issuance and enforcement of temporary orders for protection provided for in RCW 26.50.070 if: (a) A superior court has exercised or is exercising jurisdiction over a proceeding under this title or chapter 13.34 RCW involving the parties; (b) the petition for relief under this chapter presents a child custody or visitation issue; or (c) the petition for relief under this chapter requests the court to exclude a party from the dwelling which the parties share. When the jurisdiction of a district or municipal court is limited to the issuance and enforcement of a temporary order, the district or municipal court shall set the full hearing provided for in RCW 26.50.050 in superior court and transfer the case. If the notice and order are not served on the respondent in time for the full hearing, the issuing court shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the superior court to extend the order for protection.

(3) An action under this chapter shall be filed in the county or the municipality where the petitioner resides, unless the petitioner has left the residence or household to avoid abuse. In that case, the petitioner may bring an action in the county or municipality of the previous or the new household or residence.

(4) A person's right to petition for relief under this chapter is not affected by the person leaving the residence or household to avoid abuse.

~~((5) If an action under this chapter is commenced in a district or municipal court and a petitioner or respondent contests custody or visitation rights, then, upon the motion of either party containing proof that the petition for relief under this chapter has been filed with the superior court, the district or municipal court shall dismiss the action:))~~

Sec. 2. Section 4, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 26.50.030 are each amended to read as follows:

There shall exist an action known as a petition for an order for protection in cases of domestic violence.

(1) A petition for relief shall allege the existence of domestic violence, and shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath stating the specific facts and circumstances from which relief is sought.

(2) A petition for relief may be made regardless of whether or not there is a pending lawsuit, complaint, petition, or other action between the parties except in cases where the court realigns petitioner and respondent in accordance with RCW 26.50.060(3).

(3) All court clerk's offices shall make available simplified forms and instructional brochures. Any assistance or information provided by clerks under this section does not constitute the practice of law and clerks are not responsible for incorrect information contained in a petition.

(4) A filing fee of twenty dollars shall be charged for proceedings under this section. No filing fee may be charged for: (a) A petition filed in an existing action or under an existing cause number brought under this chapter in the jurisdiction where the relief is sought; or (b) the transfer of a case from district or municipal court to superior court under RCW 26.50.020(2). Forms and instructional brochures shall be provided free of charge.

(5) A person is not required to post a bond to obtain relief in any proceeding under this section.

Sec. 3. Section 31, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 26.50.035 are each amended to read as follows:

The administrator for the courts shall develop and prepare, in consultation with interested persons, the forms and instructional brochures required under RCW 26.50.030(3). ~~((These forms shall be distributed to and available for use by the court clerks before September 1, 1984:))~~ The administrator for the courts shall distribute a master copy of the forms and instructional brochures to all court clerks.

Sec. 4. Section 5, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 26.50.040 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Persons seeking relief under this chapter may file an application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis on forms supplied by the court. If the court determines that a petitioner lacks the funds to pay the costs of filing, the petitioner shall be granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis and no filing fee or any other court related fees shall be charged by the court to the

petitioner for relief sought under this chapter. If the petitioner is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, then no fees for service may be charged to the petitioner.

(2) For the purpose of determining whether a petitioner has the funds available to pay the costs of filing an action under this chapter, the income of the household or family member named as the respondent is not considered.

Sec. 5. Section 7, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 26.50.060 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Upon notice and after hearing, the court may provide relief as follows:

((+)) (a) Restrain a party from committing acts of domestic violence;

((2)) (b) Exclude the respondent from the dwelling which the parties share or from the residence of the petitioner;

((3)) (c) On the same basis as is provided in chapter 26.09 RCW, award temporary custody and establish temporary visitation with regard to minor children of the parties, and restrain any party from interfering with the custody of the minor children;

((4)) (d) Order the respondent to participate in treatment or counseling services;

((5)) (e) Order other relief as it deems necessary for the protection of a family or household member, including orders or directives to a peace officer, as allowed under this chapter; and

((6)) (f) Require the respondent to pay the filing fee and court costs, including service fees, and to reimburse the petitioner for costs incurred in bringing the action, including a reasonable attorney's fee. If the petitioner has been granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, the court may require the respondent to pay the filing fee and costs, including services fees, to the county or municipality incurring the expense.

(2) Any relief granted by the order for protection, other than a judgment for costs, shall be for a fixed period not to exceed one year.

(3) In providing relief under this chapter, the court may realign the designation of the parties as "petitioner" and "respondent" where the court finds that the original petitioner is the abuser and the original respondent is the victim of domestic violence.

Sec. 6. Section 10, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 26.50.090 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) An order issued under this chapter shall be personally served upon the respondent, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section.

(2) The sheriff of the county or the peace officers of the municipality in which the respondent resides shall serve the respondent personally unless the petitioner elects to have the respondent served by a private party.

(3) If service by a sheriff or municipal peace officer is to be used, the clerk of the court shall have a copy of any order issued under this chapter

forwarded on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order for service upon the respondent. Service of an order issued under this chapter shall take precedence over the service of other documents unless they are of a similar emergency nature.

(4) If the sheriff or municipal peace officer cannot complete service upon the respondent within ten days, the sheriff or municipal peace officer shall notify the petitioner. The petitioner shall provide information sufficient to permit notification.

(5) Returns of service under this chapter shall be made in accordance with the applicable court rules.

(6) If an order entered by the court recites that the respondent appeared in person before the court, the necessity for further service is waived and proof of service of that order is not necessary.

(7) Except in cases where the petitioner is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, municipal police departments serving documents as required under this chapter may collect the same fees for service and mileage authorized by RCW 36.18.040 to be collected by sheriffs.

Sec. 7. Section 15, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 26.50.200 are each amended to read as follows:

Nothing in this ((act)) chapter may affect the title to real estate; PROVIDED, That a judgment for costs or fees awarded under this chapter shall constitute a lien on real estate to the extent provided in chapter 4.56 RCW.

Sec. 8. Section 9A.36.040, chapter 260, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 18, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 9A.36.040 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Every person who shall commit an assault or an assault and battery not amounting to assault in either the first, second, or third degree shall be guilty of simple assault.

(2) Simple assault is a gross misdemeanor.

~~((3) Every person convicted of three offenses under this section against a family or household member as defined in RCW 10.99.020 is guilty of a class C felony.))~~

Sec. 9. Section 1, chapter 198, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. as last amended by section 19, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 10.31.100 are each amended to read as follows:

A police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a felony shall have the authority to arrest the person without a warrant. A police officer may arrest a person without a warrant for committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor only when the offense is committed in the presence of the officer, except as provided in subsections (1) through (4) of this section.

(1) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor, involving physical harm or threats of harm to any person or property or the unlawful taking of property or involving the use or possession of cannabis shall have the authority to arrest the person.

(2) A police officer shall arrest and take into custody, pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a person without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe that:

(a) An order has been issued of which the person has knowledge under RCW 10.99.040(2), 10.99.050, 26.09.060, chapter 26.26 RCW, or chapter 26.50 RCW restraining the person and the person has violated the terms of the order restraining the person from acts or threats of violence or excluding the person from a residence; or

(b) The person is eighteen years or older and within the preceding four hours has assaulted that person's spouse, former spouse, or ((other)) a person eighteen years or older with whom the person resides or has formerly resided and the officer believes: (i) A felonious assault has occurred; (ii) an assault has occurred which has resulted in bodily injury to the victim, whether the injury is observable by the responding officer or not; or (iii) that any physical action has occurred which was intended to cause another person reasonably to fear imminent serious bodily injury or death. Bodily injury means physical pain, illness, or an impairment of physical condition. When the officer has probable cause to believe that spouses, former spouses, or other persons who reside together or formerly resided together have assaulted each other, the officer is not required to arrest both persons. The officer shall arrest the person whom the officer believes to be the primary physical aggressor. In making this determination, the officer shall make every reasonable effort to consider: (i) The intent to protect victims of domestic violence under RCW 10.99.010; (ii) the comparative extent of injuries inflicted or serious threats creating fear of physical injury; and (iii) the history of domestic violence between the persons involved.

(3) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a violation of any of the following traffic laws shall have the authority to arrest the person:

(a) RCW 46.52.010, relating to duty on striking an unattended car or other property;

(b) RCW 46.52.020, relating to duty in case of injury to or death of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;

(c) RCW 46.61.500 or 46.61.530, relating to reckless driving or racing of vehicles;

(d) RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, relating to persons under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;

(e) RCW 46.20.342, relating to driving a motor vehicle while operator's license is suspended or revoked;

(f) RCW 46.61.525, relating to operating a motor vehicle in a negligent manner.

(4) A law enforcement officer investigating at the scene of a motor vehicle accident may arrest the driver of a motor vehicle involved in the accident if the officer has probable cause to believe that the driver has committed in connection with the accident a violation of any traffic law or regulation.

(5) Except as specifically provided in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section, nothing in this section extends or otherwise affects the powers of arrest prescribed in Title 46 RCW.

(6) No police officer may be held criminally or civilly liable for making an arrest pursuant to RCW 10.31.100(2) if the police officer acts in good faith and without malice.

Sec. 10. Section 4, chapter 105, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. as last amended by section 22, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 10.99.040 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Because of the serious nature of domestic violence, the court in domestic violence actions:

(a) Shall not dismiss any charge or delay disposition because of concurrent dissolution or other civil proceedings;

(b) Shall not require proof that either party is seeking a dissolution of marriage prior to instigation of criminal proceedings;

(c) Shall waive any requirement that the victim's location be disclosed to any person, other than the attorney of a criminal defendant, upon a showing that there is a possibility of further violence: PROVIDED, That the court may order a criminal defense attorney not to disclose to his client the victim's location; and

(d) Shall identify by any reasonable means on docket sheets those criminal actions arising from acts of domestic violence.

(2) Because of the likelihood of repeated violence directed at those who have been victims of domestic violence in the past, when any ~~((defendant))~~ person charged with or arrested for a crime involving domestic violence is released from custody before arraignment or trial on bail or personal recognizance, the court authorizing the release may prohibit ~~((the defendant))~~ that person from having any contact with the victim. The ~~((arresting))~~ jurisdiction authorizing the release shall determine whether ~~((the defendant))~~ that person should be prohibited from having any contact with the victim. If there is no outstanding restraining or protective order prohibiting ~~((the defendant))~~ that person from having contact with the victim, the court authorizing release may issue, by telephone, a no-contact order prohibiting the ~~((defendant))~~ person charged or arrested from having contact with the victim. The no-contact order shall also be issued in writing as soon as possible. If the court has probable cause to believe that the ~~((defendant))~~ person charged or arrested is likely to use or display or threaten to use a deadly

weapon as defined in RCW 9A.04.110 in any further acts of violence, the court may also require ~~((the defendant))~~ that person to surrender any deadly weapon in ~~((the defendant's))~~ that person's immediate possession or control, or subject to ~~((the defendant's))~~ that person's immediate possession or control, to the sheriff of the county or chief of police of the municipality in which ~~((the defendant))~~ that person resides or to the defendant's counsel for safekeeping.

(3) At the time of arraignment the court shall determine whether a no-contact order shall be issued or extended.

(4) Wilful violation of a court order issued under subsection (2) or (3) of this section is a misdemeanor. The written order releasing the ~~((defendant))~~ person charged or arrested shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 10.99 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest. A certified copy of the order shall be provided to the victim. If a no-contact order has been issued prior to charging, that order shall expire at arraignment or within seventy-two hours if charges are not filed. Such orders need not be entered into the computer information system in this state which is used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants.

~~((4))~~ (5) Whenever an order prohibiting contact is issued, modified, or terminated under subsection (2) or (3) of this section, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the copy of the order the law enforcement agency shall forthwith enter the order for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order into any ~~((computer-based criminal intelligence))~~ computer information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the law enforcement information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any jurisdiction in the state.

Sec. 11. Section 46.64.015, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 2, chapter 28, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 46.64.015 are each amended to read as follows:

Whenever any person is arrested for any violation of the traffic laws or regulations which is punishable as a misdemeanor or by imposition of a fine, the arresting officer may serve upon him a traffic citation and notice to appear in court. Such citation and notice shall conform to the requirements of RCW 46.64.010, and in addition, shall include spaces for the name and address of the person arrested, the license number of the vehicle involved, the driver's license number of such person, if any, the offense or violation charged, the time and place where such person shall appear in court, and a place where the person arrested may sign. Such spaces shall be filled with the appropriate information by the arresting officer. The arrested person, in order to secure release, and when permitted by the arresting officer, must

give his written promise to appear in court as required by the citation and notice by signing in the appropriate place the written citation and notice served by the arresting officer. An officer may not serve or issue any traffic citation or notice for any offense or violation except either when the offense or violation is committed in his presence or when a person may be arrested pursuant to RCW 10.31.100, as now or hereafter amended. The detention arising from an arrest under this section may not be for a period of time longer than is reasonably necessary to issue and serve a citation and notice, except that the time limitation does not apply under any of the following circumstances:

(1) Where the arrested person refuses to sign a written promise to appear in court as required by the citation and notice provisions of this section;

(2) Where the arresting officer has probable cause to believe that the arrested person has committed any of the offenses enumerated in RCW 10.31.100(~~((2))~~)(3), as now or hereafter amended.

Sec. 12. Section 5, chapter 105, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. as amended by section 24, chapter 263, Laws of 1984 and RCW 10.99.050 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) When a defendant is found guilty of a crime and a condition of the sentence restricts the defendant's ability to have contact with the victim, such condition shall be recorded and a written certified copy of that order shall be provided to the victim.

(2) Wilful violation of a court order issued under this section is a misdemeanor. The written order shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 10.99 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest.

(3) Whenever an order prohibiting contact is issued pursuant to this section, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the copy of the order the law enforcement agency shall forthwith enter the order for one year into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the law enforcement information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any jurisdiction in the state.

Sec. 13. Section 37, chapter 299, Laws of 1961 and RCW 3.46.030 are each amended to read as follows:

A municipal department shall have exclusive jurisdiction of matters arising from ordinances of the city, and no jurisdiction of other matters except as conferred by statute.

Sec. 14. Section 51, chapter 299, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 104, chapter 258, Laws of 1984 and RCW 3.50.020 are each amended to read as follows:

The municipal court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction over traffic infractions arising under city ordinances and exclusive original criminal jurisdiction of all violations of city ordinances duly adopted by the city in which the municipal court is located and shall have original jurisdiction of all other actions brought to enforce or recover license penalties or forfeitures declared or given by such ordinances or by state statutes. The municipal court shall also have the jurisdiction as conferred by statute. The municipal court is empowered to forfeit cash bail or bail bonds and issue execution thereon; and in general to hear and determine all causes, civil or criminal, including traffic infractions, arising under such ordinances and to pronounce judgment in accordance therewith.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect September 1, 1985.

Passed the Senate April 26, 1985.

Passed the House April 26, 1985.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 1985.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 16, 1985.

CHAPTER 304

[Senate Bill No. 3085]

MOTOR VEHICLE WINDOW SUNSCREENS

AN ACT Relating to the application of coloring material to vehicle windows; and amending RCW 46.37.430.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 46.37.430, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 157, chapter 158, Laws of 1979 and RCW 46.37.430 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) On and after January 1, 1938, no person shall sell any new motor vehicle as specified herein, nor shall any new motor vehicle as specified herein be registered thereafter unless such vehicle is equipped with safety glazing material of a type approved by the state commission on equipment wherever glazing material is used in doors, windows and windshields. The foregoing provisions shall apply to all passenger-type motor vehicles, including passenger buses and school buses, but in respect to trucks, including truck tractors, the requirements as to safety glazing material shall apply to all glazing material used in doors, windows, and windshields in the drivers' compartments of such vehicles except as provided by ~~((paragraph))~~ subsection (4) of this section.