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HOUSE BILL 20

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012**

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart and Mary Jane M. Garcia

ENDORSED BY THE COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT; ENACTING THE UNIFORM INTERSTATE  
ENFORCEMENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTION ORDERS ACT;  
PERMITTING REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTION  
ORDERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--Sections 1  
through 9 of this act may be cited as the "Uniform Interstate  
Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act".

**SECTION 2.** [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the  
Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection  
Orders Act:

A. "foreign protection order" means a protection  
order issued by a tribunal of another state;

B. "issuing state" means the state whose tribunal

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1 issues a protection order;

2 C. "mutual foreign protection order" means a  
3 foreign protection order that includes provisions in favor of  
4 both the protected individual seeking enforcement of the order  
5 and the respondent;

6 D. "protected individual" means a person protected  
7 by a protection order;

8 E. "protection order" means an injunction or other  
9 order, issued by a tribunal under the domestic violence, family  
10 violence or antistalking laws of the issuing state, to prevent  
11 a person from engaging in a violent or threatening act against,  
12 harassment of, contact or communication with or physical  
13 proximity to another person;

14 F. "respondent" means the person against whom  
15 enforcement of a protection order is sought;

16 G. "state" means a state of the United States, the  
17 District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin  
18 Islands or any territory or insular possession subject to the  
19 jurisdiction of the United States. "State" includes an Indian  
20 pueblo, tribe, nation or band that has jurisdiction to issue  
21 protection orders; and

22 H. "tribunal" means a court, agency or other entity  
23 authorized by law to issue or modify a protection order.

24 SECTION 3. [NEW MATERIAL] JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT OF A  
25 FOREIGN PROTECTION ORDER.--

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1           A. A person may seek enforcement of a valid foreign  
2 protection order in a New Mexico tribunal. The tribunal shall  
3 enforce the terms of the order, including terms that provide  
4 relief that a New Mexico tribunal would lack power to provide  
5 but for this section. The tribunal shall enforce the order,  
6 whether the order was obtained by independent action or in  
7 another proceeding, if it is an order issued in response to a  
8 complaint, petition or motion filed by or on behalf of a person  
9 seeking protection. In a proceeding to enforce a foreign  
10 protection order, the tribunal shall follow New Mexico  
11 procedures for the enforcement of protection orders.

12           B. A New Mexico tribunal shall not enforce a  
13 foreign protection order issued by a tribunal of a state that  
14 does not recognize the standing of a protected individual to  
15 seek enforcement of the order.

16           C. A New Mexico tribunal shall enforce the  
17 provisions of a valid foreign protection order governing  
18 custody and visitation, if the order was issued in accordance  
19 with the jurisdictional requirements governing the issuance of  
20 custody and visitation orders in the issuing state.

21           D. A foreign protection order is valid if it:  
22               (1) identifies the protected individual and  
23 the respondent;  
24               (2) is currently in effect;  
25               (3) was issued by a tribunal that had

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1 jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter under the law  
2 of the issuing state; and

3 (4) was issued after the respondent was given  
4 reasonable notice and had an opportunity to be heard before the  
5 tribunal issued the order or, in the case of an ex parte order,  
6 the respondent was given notice and has had or will have an  
7 opportunity to be heard within a reasonable time after the  
8 order was issued in a manner consistent with the due process  
9 rights of the respondent.

10 E. A foreign protection order valid on its face is  
11 prima facie evidence of its validity.

12 F. Absence of any of the criteria for validity of a  
13 foreign protection order is an affirmative defense in an action  
14 seeking enforcement of the order.

15 G. A New Mexico tribunal may enforce provisions of  
16 a mutual foreign protection order only if:

17 (1) both parties filed a written pleading  
18 seeking a protection order from the tribunal of the issuing  
19 state; and

20 (2) the tribunal of the issuing state made  
21 specific findings that each party was entitled to a protection  
22 order.

23 SECTION 4. [NEW MATERIAL] NONJUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT OF  
24 FOREIGN PROTECTION ORDER.--

25 A. A New Mexico law enforcement officer, upon

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1 determining that there is probable cause to believe that a  
2 valid foreign protection order exists and that the order has  
3 been violated, shall enforce the order as if it were the order  
4 of a New Mexico tribunal. Presentation of a foreign protection  
5 order that identifies both the protected individual and the  
6 respondent and that, on its face, appears to be in effect  
7 constitutes probable cause to believe that a valid foreign  
8 protection order exists. For the purposes of this section, a  
9 protection order may be inscribed on a tangible medium or may  
10 have been stored in an electronic or other medium if it is  
11 retrievable in perceivable form. Presentation of a certified  
12 copy of a protection order is not required for enforcement.

13 B. If a foreign protection order is not presented,  
14 a New Mexico law enforcement officer may consider other  
15 information in determining whether there is probable cause to  
16 believe that a valid foreign protection order exists.

17 C. If a New Mexico law enforcement officer  
18 determines that an otherwise valid foreign protection order  
19 cannot be enforced because the respondent has not been notified  
20 or served with the order, the officer shall inform the  
21 respondent of the order, make a reasonable effort to serve the  
22 order upon the respondent and allow the respondent a reasonable  
23 opportunity to comply with the order before enforcing the  
24 order.

25 D. Registration or filing of a foreign protection

1 order in New Mexico is not required for the enforcement of a  
2 valid foreign protection order pursuant to the Uniform  
3 Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders  
4 Act.

5 SECTION 5. [NEW MATERIAL] REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN  
6 PROTECTION ORDER.--

7 A. A person may register a foreign protection order  
8 in New Mexico. To register a foreign protection order, a  
9 person shall present to the clerk of the district court:

10 (1) a copy of the foreign protection order  
11 that has been certified by the issuing tribunal; and

12 (2) an affidavit by the protected individual  
13 stating that, to the best of the protected individual's  
14 knowledge, the foreign protection order is currently in effect.

15 B. The clerk shall register the foreign protection  
16 order in accordance with this section. After the foreign  
17 protection order is registered, the clerk shall furnish to the  
18 person registering the order a certified copy of the registered  
19 order and shall send a copy of the registered order to the  
20 local law enforcement agency. The clerk shall not notify the  
21 respondent that the foreign protection order has been  
22 registered in New Mexico unless requested to do so by the  
23 protected individual.

24 C. A registered foreign protection order that is  
25 inaccurate or is not currently in effect shall be corrected or

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1 removed from the tribunal's records in accordance with New  
2 Mexico law.

3 D. A foreign protection order registered under the  
4 Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection  
5 Orders Act may be entered in any state or federal registry of  
6 protection orders in accordance with applicable law.

7 E. A fee shall not be charged for the registration  
8 of a foreign protection order.

9 SECTION 6. [NEW MATERIAL] LIMITS ON INTERNET

10 PUBLICATION.--A state agency, court or political subdivision of  
11 the state, including a magistrate or municipal court, judicial  
12 district, law enforcement agency, county, municipality or home-  
13 rule municipality, shall not make available publicly on the  
14 internet any information regarding the registration of, filing  
15 of a petition for or issuance of a protection order,  
16 restraining order or injunction, whether the filing or issuance  
17 occurred in New Mexico or any other state, if such publication  
18 would be likely to publicly reveal the identity or location of  
19 the party protected under such an order. A state agency, court  
20 or political subdivision may share court-generated and law  
21 enforcement-generated information contained in secure,  
22 governmental registries for protection order enforcement  
23 purposes.

24 SECTION 7. [NEW MATERIAL] OTHER REMEDIES.--A protected  
25 individual who pursues remedies under the Uniform Interstate

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1 Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act is not  
2 precluded from pursuing other legal or equitable remedies  
3 against the respondent.

4 SECTION 8. [NEW MATERIAL] UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND  
5 CONSTRUCTION.--In applying and construing the Uniform  
6 Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders  
7 Act, consideration shall be given to the need to promote  
8 uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among  
9 the states that enact that act.

10 SECTION 9. [NEW MATERIAL] TRANSITIONAL PROVISION.--The  
11 Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection  
12 Orders Act applies to protection orders issued before July 1,  
13 2012 and to continuing actions for enforcement of foreign  
14 protection orders commenced before July 1, 2012. A request for  
15 enforcement of a foreign protection order made on or after July  
16 1, 2012 for violations of a foreign protection order occurring  
17 before July 1, 2012 is governed by the Uniform Interstate  
18 Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

19 SECTION 10. Section 40-13-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
20 Chapter 286, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

21 "40-13-6. SERVICE OF ORDER--DURATION--PENALTY--REMEDIES  
22 NOT EXCLUSIVE.--

23 A. An order of protection granted under the Family  
24 Violence Protection Act shall be filed with the clerk of the  
25 court, and a copy shall be sent by the clerk to the local law

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1 enforcement agency. The order shall be personally served upon  
2 the restrained party, unless the restrained party or the  
3 restrained party's attorney was present at the time the order  
4 was issued. The order shall be filed and served without cost  
5 to the protected party.

6 B. A local law enforcement agency receiving an  
7 order of protection from the clerk of the court that was issued  
8 under the Family Violence Protection Act shall have the order  
9 entered in the national crime information center's order of  
10 protection file within seventy-two hours of receipt. This does  
11 not include temporary orders of protection entered pursuant to  
12 the provisions of Section 40-13-4 NMSA 1978.

13 C. An order of protection granted by the court  
14 involving custody or support shall be effective for a fixed  
15 period of time not to exceed six months. The order may be  
16 extended for good cause upon motion of the protected party for  
17 an additional period of time not to exceed six months.

18 Injunctive orders shall continue until modified or rescinded  
19 upon motion by either party or until the court approves a  
20 subsequent consent agreement entered into by the parties.

21 D. A peace officer shall arrest without a warrant  
22 and take into custody a restrained party whom the peace officer  
23 has probable cause to believe has violated an order of  
24 protection that is issued pursuant to the Family Violence  
25 Protection Act or entitled to full faith and credit.

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1                   ~~[E. State courts shall give full faith and credit~~  
2 ~~to tribal court orders of protection and orders of protection~~  
3 ~~issued by courts of other states. A protection order issued by~~  
4 ~~a state or tribal court against one who has petitioned, filed a~~  
5 ~~complaint or otherwise filed a written pleading for protection~~  
6 ~~against abuse by a spouse or intimate partner is not entitled~~  
7 ~~to full faith and credit if:~~

8                                 ~~(1) no cross or counter petition, complaint or~~  
9 ~~other written pleading was filed seeking such a protection~~  
10 ~~order; or~~

11                                 ~~(2) a cross or counter petition has been filed~~  
12 ~~and the court did not make specific findings that each party~~  
13 ~~was entitled to such an order.~~

14                   F.] E. A restrained party convicted of violating an  
15 order of protection granted by a court under the Family  
16 Violence Protection Act is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be  
17 sentenced in accordance with Section 31-19-1 NMSA 1978. Upon a  
18 second or subsequent conviction, an offender shall be sentenced  
19 to a jail term of not less than seventy-two consecutive hours  
20 that shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under  
21 advisement.

22                                 ~~[G.]~~ F. In addition to any other punishment  
23 provided in the Family Violence Protection Act, the court shall  
24 order a person convicted to make full restitution to the party  
25 injured by the violation of an order of protection and shall

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1 order the person convicted to participate in and complete a  
2 program of professional counseling, at the person's own  
3 expense, if possible.

4 ~~[H.]~~ G. In addition to charging the person with  
5 violating an order of protection, a peace officer shall file  
6 all other possible criminal charges arising from an incident of  
7 domestic abuse when probable cause exists.

8 ~~[I.]~~ H. The remedies provided in the Family  
9 Violence Protection Act are in addition to any other civil or  
10 criminal remedy available to the protected party or the state."

11 **SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY.**--If any part or application of  
12 the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence  
13 Protection Orders Act is held invalid, the remainder or its  
14 application to other situations or persons shall not be  
15 affected.

16 **SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE.**--The effective date of the  
17 provisions of this act is July 1, 2012.