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## SENATE BILL 327

## 46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003 INTRODUCED BY

Dede Feldman

## AN ACT

RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE; IMPOSING A FEE UPON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDERS; CREATING A FUND; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE COST OF PROVIDING TREATMENT TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDERS.

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

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDERS--FEE ASSESSED UPON Section 1. CONVICTION. --

- A domestic violence offender shall be assessed, A. in addition to any other fine or fee imposed by the court:
- upon a first conviction, a fee of one (1) hundred fifty dollars (\$150);
- upon a second conviction, a fee of three (2) hundred dollars (\$300); and
  - upon a third or subsequent conviction, a (3)

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fee of five hundred dollars (\$500).

B. The fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be deposited in the domestic violence offender treatment fund to defray the cost of providing treatment to domestic violence offenders. All fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be subject to an audit by the state auditor.

Section 2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER TREATMENT FUND

CREATED--APPROPRIATION--PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.--

A. The "domestic violence offender treatment fund" is created in the state treasury. All fees collected pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 of this act shall be transmitted monthly to the department of finance and administration for credit to the domestic violence offender treatment fund.

- B. Balances in the domestic violence offender treatment fund are appropriated to the children, youth and families department to provide funds to domestic violence offender treatment programs to defray the cost of providing treatment to domestic violence offenders.
- C. Payment out of the domestic violence offender treatment fund shall be made on vouchers issued and signed by the secretary of children, youth and families upon warrants drawn by the department of finance and administration.
- D. In order to be eligible for money from the domestic violence offender treatment fund, a domestic violence . 143926.1

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offender treatment progra	m shall	i ncl ude	the	fol lowi ng
components in its program	:			

- (1) an initial assessment to determine if a domestic violence offender will benefit from participation in the program;
- (2) a written contract, which must be signed by the domestic violence offender, that sets forth:
- (a) attendance and participation requirements;
- (b) consequences for failure to attend or participate in the program, and
- (c) a confidentiality clause that prohibits disclosure of information revealed during treatment sessions;
- (3) strategies to hold domestic violence offenders accountable for their violent behavior;
- (4) a requirement that group discussions are limited to members of the same gender;
  - (5) an education component that:
- (a) defines physical, emotional, sexual,economic and verbal abuse and techniques for stopping thoseforms of abuse; and
- (b) examines gender roles, socialization, the nature of violence, the dynamics of power and control and the effects of domestic violence on children; .143926.1

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- (7) a requirement that the program provide monthly written reports to the presiding judge or the domestic violence offender's probation or parole officer regarding:
- (a) proof of the domestic violence offender's enrollment in the program;
- (b) progress reports that address the domestic violence offender's attendance, fee payments and compliance with other program requirements; and
- (c) evaluations of progress made by the domestic violence offender and recommendations as to whether or not to require the offender's further participation in the program; and
- (8) a requirement that the term of the program be at least fifty-two weeks.
- E. Counseling for couples shall not be a component of a domestic violence offender treatment program.
- F. As used in this section, "domestic violence offender" means:
- (1) a person convicted for an offense pursuant to the provisions of the Crimes Against Household Members Act; or
- (2) a person convicted for violating an order . 143926.1

of protection granted by a court pursuant to the provisions of the Family Violence Protection Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE. -- The effective date of the Section 3. provisions of this act is July 1, 2003.

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