

2007 Legislative Agenda

- Increase funding for rape crisis centers.
 - Building on our success getting a specific line item of \$100,000 for rape crisis centers in last year's budget, NCCASA would like to increase the amount and make it a recurring budget item.
- Increase funding to the Rape Victim Assistance Program.
 - Every fiscal year, the Rape Victim Assistance Program runs out of funding before the end of the year. Victims should not have to wait to receive compensation for medical expenses incurred due to assault.
- Amend 50C.
 - NCCASA would like to make violations of 50C orders a criminal offense. As it stands now, there is only a civil remedy available to victims.
 - As in 50B, NCCASA would like rape crisis center services to be codified in 50C. Additionally, NCCASA's role in providing services to rape crisis centers should be included.
 - To further protect victims, 50C orders should include a gun seizure provision.
- Clarify and strengthen stalking laws.
 - Current North Carolina law is vague regarding what actions constitute stalking activity. NCCASA plans to work to ensure all activity that is harassing in nature is covered by the stalking statute.
- Conform North Carolina statutes to Adam Walsh Act of 2006 and other federal laws and regulations.
 - Recent federal legislation prohibits the use of polygraphing on victims of sexual assault for the purposes of continuing an investigation or prosecution. North Carolina should ensure that no county or city employs this practice.
 - While HIV testing of sex offenders is guaranteed to victims, the federal government asks that these tests be done within 24 hours.