

# City of Philadelphia



(Bill No. 210249)

## AN ORDINANCE

Amending various chapters of the Philadelphia Code to amend the definitions of certain terms, and provide protections for persons affected by coercive control, including in the context of employment discrimination, employment leave, and housing protections, and making technical changes, all under certain terms and conditions.

*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:*

SECTION 1. Chapter 9-4100 of The Philadelphia Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

### CHAPTER 9-4100. PROMOTING HEALTHY FAMILIES AND WORKPLACES

\* \* \*

§ 9-4103. Definitions.

(1) "Agency" means such office as the Mayor shall designate.

(2) "Domestic abuse" is abuse as defined in 23 Pa. C.S. [§ 6102(a).] § 6102(a) or domestic violence as defined in Code Section 9-3201.

\* \* \*

SECTION 2. Chapter 9-3200 of The Philadelphia Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

### CHAPTER 9-3200. ENTITLEMENT TO LEAVE DUE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING

§ 9-3201. Definitions.

(1) "Domestic violence" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members, sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood:

\* \* \*

(f) "Coercive control" means a pattern of threatening, humiliating, or intimidating actions toward an individual used to punish or frighten the individual, including but not limited to a pattern of behavior that, in effect, takes away the individual's liberty, freedom, or

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*sense of self, safety, or bodily integrity; including, but not limited to, a pattern of one or more of the following actions:*

- (.1) Isolating the victim from support networks;*
- (.2) Controlling the victim's economic and other resources, such as transportation;*
- (.3) Closely monitoring the victim's activities, communications or movements;*
- (.4) Repetitively degrading and demeaning of the victim;*
- (.5) Threatening to kill or harm the victim or the victim's children or relatives or pets; or to take steps to separate the victim from the victim's children and or pets;*
- (.6) Threatening to publish or publishing sexualized, false, or embarrassing information, videos, photographs, or other depictions of the victim;*
- (.7) Damaging or taking the victim's property or possessions;*
- (.8) Displaying or referring to weapons as a means to intimidate or threaten; or*
- (.9) Forcing the victim to engage in unlawful activity.*

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**Explanation:**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted.  
*Italics* indicate new matter added.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Bill, Passed by the City Council on April 29, 2021. The Bill was Signed by the Mayor on May 11, 2021.



Michael A. Decker  
Chief Clerk of the City Council